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Bridgend & Porthcawl

GEM



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THURSDAY, JULY 1ST, 2010

Partnership revamps Scouts' hall

KENFIG Hill Scout and Guide Hall is now fully 'prepared' for all seasons and weather, thanks to a partnership between Connaught Partnerships and Valley to Coast (V2C).

The front of the building has new windows, doors and guttering, installed as part of Connaught's commitment to the Valleys to Coast 'Building Communities' programme.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 3)



Connaught's project manager John Brownell with some of the Scouts, Brownies and Rainbows who use the hall.

TRADERS WILL HAVE TO APPLY FOR THEIR PAVEMENT LICENCE

B R I D G E N D
County Borough Council is pressing ahead with controversial plans to license street cafes and businesses which use the pavements outside their premises.

The scheme is being piloted in Bridgend town

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

centre and traders will have to apply for a licence, although it will be free this year.

Renewal next year will cost £75.

The new scheme applies not only to pavement cafes, but also to greengrocers who put out fruit and vegetables and others who place A-

boards on the pavement. The council has stated that the placing of these items outside premises contravenes the Highways Act of 1980.

When asked by The GEM why it had taken 30 years to implement this act, the council stated that there is more 'clutter' on high streets

these days and there have been changes in the law, including the Disability Discrimination Act.

But traders are unhappy about the move, which will also hit Porthcawl and Maesteg, in future, as the scheme is rolled out across the borough.

Traders are arguing that the pedestrianisation in Bridgend and Porthcawl was introduced by the council to create a 'continental'-style ambience, with pavement cafes and the like.

They argue that the increase in 'clutter' is a direct consequence of the council's own policies.

The council statement added: "The new scheme will allow it to deal with the problems that can be caused for disabled people, wheelchair and shopmobility scooter users and parents with pushchairs and prams."

"The council is not against the use of street furniture and believes that if it is done properly, street furniture can benefit and enhance the town centre environment."

"However, it is important to ensure that all street furniture is safely located, does not cause an obstruction and is covered by public liability insurance."

Pontycymmer man converted flat into a cannabis factory

WHEN police raided a first-floor flat in Pontycymmer, they discovered a small-scale cannabis factory, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

There was "a pungent smell of cannabis" and throughout the house they discovered 36 cannabis plants in various stages of maturity.

The yield from all of them, said prosecutor Marian Lewis, could have been worth in excess of £8,000.

Paul Rose, 37, an unemployed welder of Pontycymmer, admitted a charge of producing cannabis and was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment, suspended for 18 months, and made subject to a supervision order for 18

by AJ SICLUNA

months. Judge Christopher Llewellyn Jones said: "What you did was set up a production line for growing cannabis."

"You were producing cannabis of significant value, though not to supply to others."

He added: "You must recognise the use of cannabis is unlawful."

Ms Lewis said the police carried out the search on December 3. When they went in, Rose was alone and, in addition to the plants, they found scales, and £1,450 in cash.

Rose told the police the plants belonged only to him and the drug was for personal use.

He said he had read a book informing him how

to grow the cannabis – a drug he had used since the age of 15.

He said his habit had cost him more than £100 a week and the cash found was savings for Christmas presents for his family.

His counsel, Timothy Hartland, said he was addicted, not only to cannabis, but once used heroin.

"He once had a good career but an accident brought it to an end. On a daily basis, he had been taking a huge amount of cannabis."

Mr Hartland said he was a vulnerable person:

"He rarely goes out and is very much a loner. There was no commercial element and he has now received a wake-up call."

MAN WHO SET FIRE TO GUEST HOUSE HAD 47 PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS

Porthcawl man gets five years jail for arson and burglary

A PORTHCAWL man has been jailed for a total of five years at Cardiff Crown Court for setting fire to a guest house in the town and raiding a chemist's shop.

Damage of many thousands of pounds was caused to the Ocean View Guest House in Mary Street, Porthcawl, and property worth £5,000 was taken from Boots in John Street.

Alan Rae committed the crimes within a week of each other, said prosecutor Tony Trigg.

He admitted charges of arson, being reckless as to whether life would be endangered, and burglary.

Judge Christopher Llewellyn Jones said: "There must have been an element of deliberation,

Crown Court report by AJ SICLUNA

or drunken deliberation, in starting the fire."

"You knew there were others in the building, which was a terrible property."

Mr Trigg said that on February 26, Rae kicked in a glass door at the chemists and made off with perfumes, cosmetics and electrical items in black bags.

He gave some of the property to a girl in the care of social services and they informed the police.

He was arrested and bailed, but on March 3 in the early hours, he started the fire in the guest house.

Smoke and flames came from his room, where he was seen sitting on a bed struggling for

breath, before being dragged outside.

Three other occupants were able to leave safely. Mr Trigg said the damage was extensive, involving three rooms, hallways, and corridors, totalling many thousands of pounds.

Fire experts said the blaze began through a naked flame. Rae said he had no recollection of it.

He was said to have 47 previous convictions, including wounding with intent, robbery, and possessing heroin with intent to supply.

His counsel, Nicholas Gareth-Jones, said: "He has psychiatric problems. Last year, his partner ended their relationship and he took to drink and drugs."

"Fortunately, no one in the guest house was seriously injured."

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LETTERS**BCBC – where everything costs £2,000!**

F2,000!...a princely sum

which, remarkably has been popping up all over Porthcawl in recent weeks and will probably be arriving at a community near you in the not too distant future.

Alas, this magical figure is not for the taking, but is the current asking price for a variety of items at Bridgend County Borough Council's department store!

First to arrive on the case was their streetscene department to provide a lick of paint to the bandstand in John Street...all for £2,000!

Now for that price I would have expected Lawrence Llewellyn-Bowen to have mixed the paint and Carol Smiley to have stuck the lid on the tin.

This figure beggars belief and is worthy of a 10-minute slot on *The Ferret* in its own right.

If that wasn't breath-taking enough for you, then the electricity supply to the bandstand will be permanently cut off as a bonus prize!

However, we can rest

'Please can we have our train back?'

PLEASE can we have our train back on the promenade in Porthcawl this summer.

Many of the elderly people and children have been unable to attend events taking place in Rest Bay, such as the Lions charity events and boot sales.

A Town Crier was advertising the golf competition recently, which again I couldn't attend.

Mair Harry,

Porthcawl

Grant could help local pensioners

THE Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) has given £166,159 to Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to distribute to pensioners in the borough as a way of easing the financial burden of council tax.

WAG has allowed local councils to find their own ways of sharing the money and BCBC Cabinet members have agreed that pensioners who DON'T currently qualify for council tax benefit can apply for a 'one off' payment towards their council tax.

The amount awarded will depend on the total number of eligible pensioners who apply, but could be up to £75 per household.

In addition, a small hardship fund will be created to assist any pensioners who are identified as requiring special help throughout the year.

To qualify, pensioners must be living in the borough, liable for council tax, and be at least 65.

PRAISE FOR SCHOOL**...‘but some subjects in need of improvement’
Estyn Inspectors report****P E N C O E D Comprehensive School has won praise from Estyn inspectors for its caring support for pupils.**

Their report says the school provides good quality learning experiences for the 1,054 pupils aged 11-18, with new headteacher David George now leading it further forward.

It points out good features in ICT, music, art and design and RE, but standards in science and maths require improvement.

The inspection also found:

- Supportive working relationships between staff and pupils which promote and encourage positive approaches to learning.
- The provision for personal, spiritual,

social, and cultural development is good, as is advice and guidance on careers.

- In KS3 and KS4, the standard of pupils' communication skills is good – and is outstanding in the sixth form, while nearly all pupils with special educational needs make good progress in relation to their ability.

● There are effective curricular links which help pupils with transition from primary to secondary education.

- The school is very successful in ensuring that no pupils are disadvantaged and it challenges all forms of stereotyping.

● The work of the school council is outstanding and makes a positive contribution to developments across the school in important areas.

- Sixth formers are very good role models for younger pupils and for one another.

● Attendance levels have improved through effective monitoring procedures.

Among the recommendations, inspectors say that:

- Pupils' academic standards in science must be raised.
- There should be rigorous systems of evaluation and planning with a clear focus on raising standards of teaching and learning.
- The school's target-setting system

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend Westminster office - 02072194417, Constituency office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm (by appointment only). Telephone 01656 750002.

HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777

JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034

CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320

Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales Telephone 01639 643549

BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend CF31 1JD 01656 654951 - Open: Monday: 10am to 2pm – information only; Tuesday to Friday: 10am to 12.30pm – advice sessions. Tuesday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm – information only.

MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau 01656 734662

POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555

Porthcawl 01656 785411

Maesteg 01656 732122

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 (Emergency number 999)

COASTGUARD 01792 366534

GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999

ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400

WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130

FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188

HELPLINES

Alcohol and drugs:

Drinkline 0800 917822

National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600

DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435

RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522

SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333

MENTAL DISTRESS (Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

CHILDLINE 0800 1111

NSPCC 0800 800500

RSPCA 0300 123 0744

WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139

Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479

Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490

BRIDGENG COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Housing service

(General inquiries) 01656 643643; (emergencies out of hours) 01656 643643;

(homelessness) 01656 643643.

EDUCATION 01656 643643

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES 01656 642677

HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643

HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES (outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

SOCIAL SERVICES (general enquiries) 01656 642200

SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES (outside normal working hours) 01443 204010

HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend 01656 752752/668090.

Bridgend and District NHS Trust 01656 752752/668090.

VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS Brackla Community Council 01656 767072

Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943

Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354

Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358

Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798

Pyle Community Council 0790 460 4049

Coychurch Higher Comm Council 01656 863418

Coychurch Lower Comm Council 01656 647216

Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751

Laleston Community Council 01656 656506

Llangynwyd Lower Comm Council 01656 720086

Llangynwyd Middle Comm Council 01656 738804

Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631

Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058

Newcastle Higher Comm Council 01446 750663.

Ogmore Valley Community Council 01656 849402

Pencoed Town Council 01656 869031

Porthcawl Town Council 01656 782215

St Brides Minor Comm Council 01656 725031

Ynysawdre Community Council 01656 736751

'Give support to children's cancer charity' – MP's call

BRIDGEND MP, Madeleine Moon was among Members who pledged support for children and young people with cancer at CLIC Sargent's parliamentary reception in the Members Room of the House of Commons.

The MP reported: "It was good to spend time talking to Simon Morgan-Jones of

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20–25 minutes later.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL JULY 8)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20–25 minutes later.

DATE **Time** **Ht** **DATE** **Time** **Ht**

AM M PM M

01 Thur 10.03 8.6 22.22 8.8

02 Fri 10.43 8.6 23.04 8.7

03 Sat 11.18 8.3 23.39 8.4

04 Sun 11.54 7.9

05 Mon 00.20 7.9 12.48 7.7

06 Tues 01.13 7.6 13.51 7.6

07 Wed 02.25 7.7 14.58 7.7

08 Thur 03.41 7.8 16.16 8.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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John Brownell with Anthony Burnell (10), brother Phillip (9), Gareth Davies (9), Ceris Phillips (9) and Brooke Simecock (5).

Scout hall is now 'prepared for all seasons'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Connaught has been carrying out work on the V2C housing project in the area since 2004 and is working to upgrade 2,500 homes in the Bridgend area with new bathrooms, kitchens, electrical rewiring and gas systems.

District Commissioner for the Scouts and Guides, Caroline Little, explained: "The building is more than 40 years old and had started to fall into a dilapidated state over recent years. It has been a job well

done and will make a huge difference for us as we can now actually use the windows and doors without worrying if they will open and close again!"

Craig Thomas, Connaught's V2C project manager, said: "Our partners at V2C recommended that the scout and guide group organisers should contact us and we were more than happy to help out."

"We hope that the users will have a much warmer winter now that repairs have been carried out."

Flying Vet's silence in court puts him back in prison cell

MAURICE KIRK, the 'Vale Flying Vet' is again behind bars in a prison cell.

Last week, 64-year-old Kirk appeared in person at Cardiff Crown Court and successfully applied for medical records to be released to him.

When the hearing ended, the Recorder of Cardiff, Judge Nicholas Cooke QC, rose and went to leave Court Number One.

Mr Kirk shouted that he had other matters to raise, and at that point picked up a heavy plastic file, secured with metal rings, and threw it towards the judge's bench.

It missed the court associate by an inch before landing near the judge.

Mr Kirk was immediately arrested and taken to the court cells.

Six hours later, he appeared before Judge Christopher Llewellyn-

ANTI-CRIME SURGERY

VISITORS to Bridgend Designer Outlet can meet their resident neighbourhood police community support officer, PCSO Karen Powell at a Crime Prevention Surgery outside the food court between 10am and 5pm on July 5-6.

Report by AJ SICLUNA

Jones QC and was jailed for 28 days for contempt of court.

On Tuesday (June 29) he appeared in the high-security Court Number Five in a dock which has bullet-proof glass, to apologise for his sentence.

Earlier this year, Mr Kirk was found not guilty of possessing, selling or transferring a prohibited weapon, a Lewis machine gun.

He was also cleared of a charge of possessing the weapon, which was nearly 100 years old.

Twice during that hearing, Mr Kirk had to be forcibly carried to the cells by dock officers.

Show your pride, keep Cornelly tidy!

A NEW volunteer action group, supported by Bridgend County Borough Council, will be launched on Saturday (July 3) with the aim of keeping Cornelly tidy.

It's being led by Cornelly councillor Jefferson Tildesley, backed by several organisations including BCBC Valleys 2 Coast, BTCAV, Communities First and South Wales Police.

The group will start

trimming grass verges, and create and plant way-side flowers, shrubs and trees this weekend.

The first project will involve trimming the grass verge on the corner of Heol Fach and Hall Drive.

Coun Tildesley said: "If you wish to help do something in your street or road, please get in touch, or come along on July 3, from 9.30am.

"I would really like to see volunteers from the community and show that we have pride in our villages!"

Local schools are recycling ambassadors

BRIDGEND county borough schools Litchard Primary and Ysgol Ferch o'r Sger Primary were named winners of the SMILE:10 competition at an event held recently at Bridgend Recreation Centre.

Smile is part of a collaboration between Bridgend College and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), aiming to generate awareness of the importance of recycling. This project has seen IT students from Bridgend College work with the county borough's local primary schools to help develop their IT and media skills.

The Mayor of Bridgend Borough, Coun Colin Teesdale, said: "This competition is a great example of the community working together. Bridgend College students and local schoolchildren have gained invaluable benefits from the project.

"Additionally the message behind the project is extremely significant. It's teaching people about the importance of recycling and how everyone has a part to play in reducing,

reusing and recycling."

More than 150 pupils from Ysgol Ferch o'r Sger Primary School, Litchard Junior School and Cwmgarw Primary School took part in a fun-filled morning of interactive activities to promote recycling. In addition, Llanilltud Fawr Primary were involved in a case study exercise.

Four competitors from each school went head-to-head in an electronic quiz on the theme of recycling, as well as producing three minute 'Vlogs' and jingles with help from college students, which were later aired on Bridge FM.

Pupils also built hovercrafts and made badges out of recycled material with Bridgend College engineering and art and design students.

The project has enabled Bridgend College students to increase their skills portfolio, while helping the school children to learn new skills.

The winning team of the quiz, Ysgol Ferch o'r Sger Primary School, was awarded with eight recycled PCs from Bridgend College. Litchard Primary School won £300 for their school for being judged to have the best Vlog.

'Arts for the Earth' hosts community pop

ON Friday July 16,

the Sustainable Wales 'Arts for the Earth' group host a community festival of Porthcawl pop at the Seabank Hotel.

Following last year's success, *The Commune* returns with another exhilarating and eclectic line-up of quality acts and performances - a mini-festival with a Glastonbury vibe!

The aim of this charity fundraiser is to provide a live showcase for original material from Welsh talent and the mix of acts and styles is wonderfully diverse...

The night will be a musical journey of sounds and styles, including quirky acoustics from Porthcawl Ukulele Band, raucous indie rockers dKE, our very own modfather, Nick Ward and his band, some hip-hop street vibes from Blud

Kunnektion and round-

ed off with an electro-

funk dance set from WMD.

Special guests

include an acoustic set

from local mover

Murphy, and a guest

spot on the fretboard

from maestro Raul

Arrieta as 'guitarLOKO

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SPICE

A SPICE child and

family project evening

is taking place at the

Hi Tide, Porthcawl on

July 23 to raise funds

for the charity.

There will be chick-

en in a basket and

disco/auction, which

starts at 7.15pm.

For further informa-

tion, contact Rob

Green on 01656

656580.

Brackla Bridgend WI celebrates 30 years!



DURING May, members captivated with Nolton Church Hall with her charm and wit, especially when it came to talking about correctly Beads, Ewenny Road. Come along and join us, allegedly 80 per cent of women wear ill-fitting bras so she gave plenty of hints to look out for in the future!

The next meeting is on July 15 at 7.30pm in

01656 750081. Further info available from Bronwen on 01656 662225 or Jackie on

EWENNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

THE annual general meeting of Ewenny Community Council was held in the Village Hall on May 12.

Following a unanimous vote, Coun A P Baker took the Chair for 2010-11.

Funding for the refurbishment of the Wick Road Play Area is looking hopeful, but the council awaits the result of its grant applications.

The condition of Abbey Road continues to cause concern and the Vale Council have again been contacted. A number of cement drainage channels have been installed on the river side of the road.

A tree has been planted in Corntown by the outgoing Chairman Coun S A Wilson to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of VE Day - a plaque will follow as soon as possible.

MARY LONG,
CLERK

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Porthcawl's mobile phone mast: 'The fight will continue'

PORTHCAWL residents are gearing themselves up for another fight against the siting of a phone mast in the town.

This time, O2 has submitted plans to build a 40-feet high mast at the Newton end of New Road, outside the entrance to Trecco Bay and near a residential home for the elderly.

Resident Barbara Rees has been leading the campaign on behalf of local residents.

"The mast will have six antennae and will also have two ground level cabinets. It will be opposite my home."

Residents, who are writing individual letters of objection and are organising a petition, are fighting the plan on a number of grounds.

"It will be very visually intrusive and unsightly," she said. "But we are concerned because it will be close to two private schools. As a 3G mast it

will emit microwaves and Sir William Stuart, chairman of the National Radiological Board, announced that he accepted that the evidence of damage to children was so compelling that he introduced restrictions over the siting of these masts.

"The main beam from the mast cannot fall on children or any part of a school grounds.

"But apart from schools, children are also living in many of the houses near this proposed mast – and what about the children who will be on holiday in the caravans at Trecco? Hundreds of children could be affected."

The presence of a home for elderly people is also causing concern.

Mrs Rees has spoken to local borough councillor Ken Watts, who said that despite claims from the applicants that they had consulted councillors, he had received nothing from them about the application.

He intends to speak to the agents for 02 to point this out: "None of the Newton councillors have heard a dicky bird about this," he said.

"But in the supporting documents they have submitted, it states that they have notified local members but received no response. That's because none of us knew anything about it."

Coun Watts is to speak to planning officers also to see if the application is to be determined by councillors or delegated to officer level.

Residents are being backed by town Councillor Jill Sweet, who said that she would support local people because of their concerns about the mast.

The application has not yet come up at Porthcawl Town Council.

Earlier plans to place mobile phone masts in other locations in Porthcawl have been turned down by both the town and county borough councils.

Porthcawl woman's charity challenge

A PORTHCAWL woman is in training for a charity bike ride in aid of the Way Foundation – an organisation which supports men and women who are widowed early in life.

Caroline Sarll, who is happy to admit that she has never cycled seriously, aims to ride from Porthcawl to Cardiff on August 8.

The Way Foundation means a lot to Caroline, because she founded it after the sudden and untimely death of her brother-in-law.

That tragedy happened in 1997, and since



ABOVE: Caroline Sarll.

then the charity has grown and has branches throughout the UK.

In recent years, she

Chipping pets could save money

REGIONAL AM Andrew Davies who lives in the Vale, teamed up with the Kennel Club on the steps of the Senedd to urge pet owners to have their animals microchipped, as part of National Microchipping Month.

He was presented with a cheque, displaying the astonishing £419,564 that Welsh local autho-

ties could save each year on kennelling costs if dogs were microchipped and could then be returned home more easily.

"Speaking at the event, Andrew commented: "Microchipping is a huge part of being a responsible dog owner. Not only can it mean the difference between being reunited with a lost pet or never seeing them again, but it could also save the councils hundreds of thousands of pounds each year."

"I am having major trouble with the climbs, but this weekend I am aiming to cycle to Cowbridge and back."

"So far, the best I have done is Bridgend and back."

She added: "At the moment my shoulders are killing me, but I am nearer to conquering Danygraig Hill!"

To donate to Caroline's charity ride, go to www.justgiving/fiftybeforefifty

VOLUNTEERS have visited police dogs and horses to make sure they are treated properly, thanks to a scheme from South Wales Police.

The visitors check facilities at the dog and mounted section at Waterton, Bridgend, and it is seen as an excellent way for people to be confident that the animals are treated properly.

A total of 46 visits took place to the site during April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 by the 10 animal welfare visitors.

"The reports of the visitors show that the condition of the animals remains excellent, as well as the surroundings

'COME ON BACK TO THE COUNTY BOROUGH'

UK golf enthusiasts are urged



ABOVE: BCBC Leader Coun Mel Nott with South African John Bland, winner of The Ryder Cup Wales Seniors Open at Royal Porthcawl.

GOLF enthusiasts who attended the successful Ryder Cup Wales Seniors Open at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club are being urged to "come back to the borough" by BCBC Leader Mel Nott.

The club hosted the tournament, one of the most lucrative on the 2010 European Senior Tour schedule for the second consecutive year last weekend.

With just four months before Newport's Celtic Manor Resort hosts the Ryder Cup itself, Coun Nott said: "The success of the event in Porthcawl once again proves to the golfing world just what a fine venue we have.

"I would also hope that golfing enthusiasts and their supporters would return to us for the beautiful scenery and excellent facilities Porthcawl and the wider borough has to offer.

"I would certainly urge anyone who is in Wales for the Ryder Cup in October to consider a trip down the M4 to see us, too."

Royal Porthcawl will form part of Ryder Cup Wales's "Summer of Golf" programme in the Wales valleys.

Volunteers check on police animals

they are kept in. Issues which were raised related to small, minor ailments, which were properly treated through veterinary care," said chair of the animal welfare visiting scheme, Mrs Joy Whinney.

"The commitment of these visitors is excellent. They use their own time to carry out the checks on the animals, and we at the Police Authority are grateful for their dedication.

"Police dogs and horses are seen as some of the most recognisable and best-loved members of the force, and so it is essential that they are kept and treated properly," she added.



ABOVE: BCBC Deputy Leader Coun David Sage, Leader Coun Mel Nott and Richard Fletcher, BCBC's Head of Street Scene, launch new tourism brochures at Royal Porthcawl.

GEM Quiz posers

HERE are your teasers:

1. Which famous explorer was killed by natives in the Phillipines in 1521?
2. Who was the Roman Goddess of the Moon, equivalent to the Greek Goddess Selene?
3. Who in 1997 made a 147 break at the World Snooker Championship in just five minutes and twenty seconds?
4. The nickname of which British Prime Minister was 'The unknown Prime Minister'?

A Rudge (Hon Sec BGQL)

4. Andrew Bonar Law
2. Lillian Maitland
3. Ronnie O'Sullivan
1. Maggie Lunn

School fete
HERONSBRIDGE school is having a fete on July 3 at 12 noon in the school grounds.

KRUF hands over £4,500

THE KRUF annual "Walk for Life" dinner took place in Cardiff recently, attended by members of the Porthcawl KRUF committee: president Dr David Parry and chairman Mrs Jean Schofield, along with Coun Rosemary Deere who was mayor of Porthcawl at the time of the walk, and Dr Pat Parry.

"The committee would like to thank everyone who has supported them during the year and hope to see them at forthcoming events," she added.

Cardiff Crown Court

June 22

THE report in our edition of June 24 concerning a case of actual bodily harm, contained an error and we should like to confirm that the defendant in this case was Mr Kenneth Pope, age 36, of Bridgend, and that Ms Palfrey is aged 34, not 24.

We regret any confusion caused.

OBITUARY

Susan Patricia Thomas, aged 61

IT is with much sadness that I write this tribute to the late Mrs Susie Thomas, who faced her illness with such supreme courage.

The esteem in which she was held by her friends and neighbours was evident at her funeral, which took place at the Mid-Glamorgan Crematorium on June 23.

A friend who had travelled from Australia paid a moving tribute

and gave an insight into her indomitable spirit, which had carried her through the last weeks of her illness.

Susie had moved from England to Australia as an infant and as an adult, she moved in some very dangerous areas around the world while working as an air hostess, and she was stationed in Kuwait.

Eventually, Susie's travels brought her to Wales, where she would meet her future husband, David.

In 1977, Susie and

David were married on the beautiful island of St Lucia, eventually making their home at Mount Pleasant Farm, where Susie enjoyed the life of a farmer's wife.

David will always have the cherished memories of their happy years together – the love of his sister Jill, her husband Peter, and their children will be a comfort to him in the future months ahead.

The service was conducted by Rev Canon Peter Raikes and Rev Canon Val Hamer.

NANCY DAVIDGE

PORTHCAWL TOWN PAYS ITS RESPECTS TO ARMED FORCES



ARMED Forces Day was celebrated last Saturday in Porthcawl with a ceremony at the bandstand in John Street.

Shoppers stood quietly for the two-minute silence, and for a short speech made by Ruth Birch, the chairman of the Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion.

The service was conducted by the Rev Peter Jones and the exhortation, the moving verse from Binyon's 'For The Fallen', was spoken by Lt Col David Cox.

Last Post and Reveille was played by a local young man, Robert Thomas.

Porthcawl Air Cadets from 2347 Squadron took part, along with former and current members of HM Forces. The Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmett Lewis and her consort, Bobby, were in attendance, as was Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon.



'Playing the Last Post'.

'Music on a summer's night' helps Barnardo's



ABOVE: The performers receive the audience's applause.

Photos by
KEITH E MORGAN

A CONCERT in aid of Barnardo's and entitled 'Music for a Summer's Evening' with the Cardiff Bach Choir, was held in All Saints Church, Porthcawl, courtesy of Canon Philip Masson.

The concert, which was organised by Liz Singer, Porthcawl's representative of Barnardo's Cymru, realised £1,230 for the charity.

Soloists were: Zoë Maitland, soprano, and Pierre-Maurice Barlier, baritone. The conductor was Dr Timothy Taylor and the accompanist was Sally Tarlton.



ABOVE: Soloists Zoë Maitland and Pierre-Maurice Barlier.



Liz Singer with goddaughter Zoë Maitland after making a presentation to Pierre-Maurice Barlier.



ABOVE: Canon Philip Masson with Andrew and Liz Singer before the concert.

THE MINERS' EISTEDDFOD: Whose decision to withdraw council funding?

by **JAYNE ISAAC**

THE future of the Miners' Eisteddfod was put under the spotlight at the last meeting of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Kenfig Hill councillor Allan Jones, who is a keen supporter of the event, asked if it was true that the council had decided to withdraw funding for the brass band competition, which is the last remaining event organised as part of the eisteddfod.

All the other competitions were scrapped a few years ago because of dwindling support.

He asked who at the council had taken the decision.

The GEM revealed earlier this year that the council had decided to withdraw its financial support next year, which left a question mark hanging over the future of the competition, staged each February at the Grand Pavilion in Porthcawl.

At that time, Porthcawl council leader David Deere stepped in and said that he would be meeting the other parties on the council to seek ways of becoming the eisteddfod's main sponsor. Meetings are taking place at the moment to see if the funding can be found.

In his reply to Coun Jones, Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing, said that the council had supported the event for many years but a meeting was held two years ago between the then head of arts and culture at the council and Roger Price, who is secretary to the eisteddfod.

It was decided that the council would reduce its grant from £3,000 to £1,500 this year and to withdraw it for next year.

This decision was taken by officers using delegated powers.

Coun Morgan went on: "This was based on recognition of the increasing budgetary pressures the service faced, and also on the basis that the arts and culture service does not support other events of this nature, despite receiving many requests from event and festival organisers each year."

However, he said that the event would continue to get a discount on the hire charges of the Pavilion, as do all charity and not-for-profit events.

councillors on this. Who is making these decisions on behalf of the council and the people of Bridgend? There seems to be no accountability."

Coun Jones added that with the closure of Tower Colliery, which had also backed the eisteddfod, the event was facing a financial crisis, with council funding pulled as well.

"I just hope that Porthcawl Town Council can plug this gap," he added.

"People from the mining communities have many links to this event and the brass band element was always very strong, which is why it has kept going."

"I know, too, that Porthcawl people have valued the link between their town and the miners through this eisteddfod and it would be nice if the town now helped to keep this going."

Anglers pay-out will never be revealed

THE SUM of money paid out by Bridgend County Borough Council to the Ogmore Angling Association will never be disclosed to council taxpayers, although it was public money that was spent.

In a reply to Coun Ken Watts on this issue, after he lodged a question at the full council meeting, a council spokesman said that the transaction would not appear in the council's financial accounts for this financial year.

Instead, it will be buried within the total sum spent under the heading of "general contingencies". This means that no-one checking through the council's accounts line by line to find out how they have safeguarded public money will be able to work out how much was paid.

The GEM has been pursuing this issue for several months and asked if the undisclosed sum would show up in the council accounts which go for audit. At that time, we were told: "All transactions during the financial year are

included in the authority's statement of accounts, which are subject to audit."

But this latest disclosure means that the sum involved will never be known.

The GEM revealed last week that the council paid damages to the association "in recognition of their property rights."

The issue arose when work was under way to build the Angel walkway and bridge, which disrupted fishing along that stretch of river.

But a 'gagging' order imposed by the court means that the council is unable to say how much money was paid or why.

We asked why the council agreed to such a gagging order when public money was involved, but were told that both parties agreed to the court order.

Coun Watts asked how the payment to the anglers would be listed in the accounts and under which budget heading.

He was told it would be a sum included within the "global total for general contingencies".

A toast to Australia's new Prime Minister - by her former neighbour!

by TIM CHAPMAN



LAST week a man from Barry had a special reason to toast the new Prime Minister of Australia – he's a close family friend, and put her up on holiday when she returned to the town of her birth!

Basil Baker (91) of Queen Street knew John and Moira Gillard and daughters Julia and Alison as next door neighbours in the 60s.

But last Thursday, he woke to the news that Julia had become Australia's first female Prime Minister.

Basil said: "My wife Mabel and I moved into Queen Street before the Gillards. They came a couple of years later."

"John, the father, worked in the ticket office of Barry Railway Station so a lot of people knew him."

"He and Moira were good friends, nice parents and they had nice kids, nothing special – until now!"

The family left for Australia in 1966 because John and Moira thought the climate would help Julia who had health problems.

Basil said: "The family came back on holiday when Julia was in her teens. We put Julia and



ABOVE: Marco Zeraschi spoke about Barry on Australian radio and used it as an opportunity to sell the town and Vale to potential Aussie tourists.

her parents up because we had two bedrooms spare. If I remember correctly, her sister stayed with their grandparents.

"We spent a long time chatting because it was snowy outside. I remember Julia saying she wanted a career. She wasn't sure what, but told me she wanted work her way up. The first job she had was as an immigration officer."

"The Gillards have kept in touch with me each Christmas and let me know when she became Deputy Prime Minister by sending me a magazine article."

"I think what she has achieved is amazing. It makes me wonder if she had stayed here whether she would have become the British Prime Minister – Mrs Thatcher did."

Mr Baker, who worked as a coalman in Barry for 38 years with the family business Baker & Sons, added: "If the family do come back, I hope they look me up."

Last week, the Australian media were keen to find out about Julia Gillard's home town with TV crews and newspaper reporters getting a flavour of Barry from the locals.

Marco Zeraschi, who owns Marco's Café on the Island, did an interview for the Australian Broadcasting Company's evening news.

"I told them that the best looking girls were from Barry and that they were lucky to have her – a great export. They wanted to know a bit about the town so I told them we had a better beach than Bondi!"

Marco also used the opportunity to sell the Barry and the Vale to

Australian visitors. He told The GEM: "We get lots of Australians coming here because Gavin and Stacey is massive with the Aussies. Lots of them come to the Island to take photos."

TRAIN NAMED AFTER PM

The Barry Rail Centre, is renaming one of its trains 'Julia Pride of Barry', after Julia Gillard.

Barry Rail Centre managing director, Dr Mark Lang said: "Plans to restore the Class 73 locomotive at Barry Rail Centre are under way, and the Rail Centre's operator, Cambrian Transport, is now keen to encourage Julia Gillard's role as an ambassador for the town. The locomotive is on long-term loan from Eurostar and when restored it will provide a training facility for local young people wanting a career in the rail industry."

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, 'Tynewydd', Llangan. (01656) 860303

Draw winners

ST MARY HILL Church 100 Club summer draw winners: Rachel Vaughan Jones, Mrs B Powell, Mr G Jones, Gwennan Harries, Eric Vaughan Jones.

The next draw will take place in September.

Burglary

A HOUSE in Treoes village was broken into while the owners were away and jewellery stolen. If anyone noticed a stranger acting suspiciously in the area two weeks ago, please inform the police.

Reminder
LLANGAN School

Fair will be held on Saturday, July 3 from 11am-2pm. Everyone welcome!

Get well

TO Young At Heart club chairman, Arthur Thomas, get better soon. We all miss you at the club!

Diary date

ST CANNA'S Church, Cychurch, will be holding the annual barbecue and fete at the Old Rectory, Cychurch, on Saturday, July 17.

Stalls and games for all the family and final yards of the 'miles of pennies' competition.

Talent is Gathering
YOUNG musicians are being given the chance of a 'break-through' under a new scheme for solo or band musicians aged 14-25.

The 'Gathering' is organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development and Bridgend College, and enables young musicians

Erin claims gold as dance school excels



ABOVE:
Erin McClooughlin.

promises to be an enjoyable show to raise money for a very good cause. Please come along and support this event," a spokeswoman urged.

Further details on 0777 5910 989 or email arts@bridgend.gov.uk.

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

WI Lunch

ABERKENFIG and District Women's Institute have held their annual lunch at the Nicholls Arms in Coytrehen, where they have always been assured of a warm welcome.

The ladies enjoyed the opportunity to get together in an informal atmosphere.

New members and visitors are always welcome at meetings on the second Wednesday of each month in the Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig at 2pm.

The next meeting is on July 14 and the speaker will be Joyce Jones on 'writing your memoirs'.

The monthly competition is for any item beginning with the letter 'T'. There will also be a sales table where members donate their unwanted small items to help boost the funds.

More details for Aberkenfig WI can be found on www.cob-webs.uk.net.

Brackla Community Chorus

THE mixed voice choir was started in 1990 by Pastor Bill and Lucy-Pat Curl, at Brackla Baptist church. In 1999, they moved on to pastures new and the present musical director, Gillian Ridout, took charge, and is still there today.

The membership has fluctuated between three and 60 and most have been from the Bridgend area. The choir's accompanist is Gareth Waite, and the choir performs a variety of light classical and popular music. Each year they produce two concerts, one at Christmas, the other in the summer.

The choir gives local school pupils a platform to display their talents at these concerts. The choir also performs at residential homes, and is available to perform at a local event to help any charity raise funds.

This year, the summer concert is being held at Brackla community centre, Whitethorn Drive, Bridgend, CF31 2PQ on July 9 at 7pm.

Archbishop McGrath Roman Catholic Secondary School orchestra is conducted by Glyn Price. Tickets £3 at the door.

The choir rehearses at the community centre on Wednesday evenings between 7pm and 9pm; new members are always given a warm welcome.

Right to roam

OVER the last couple of weeks I have driven to two different forestry commission areas to take my dog for a walk, because of

NORTH BRIDGENG NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM. If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Members of the children's choir rehearsing for the concert in Plasnewydd Junior School.

the hot weather he would have found it cooler in the shade from the trees.

At both areas the car parks I had used to gain access to the forest walks were closed. I had used these for a number of years.

Does this mean the Forestry Commission has withdrawn the right for the public to walk through their plantations?

Tax help for elderly
THE charity TOP, is opening a surgery at Pencoed library on July 13, which it hopes to hold each month.

The professional advice it offers is free to elderly persons who have difficulty in sorting their financial affairs with the Inland Revenue, especially since many local district area offices have been closed. The charity will also arrange visits to anyone who is house bound to give them the necessary advice.

For more information telephone 0845 601 3321.

Summer fete
THE Parish of Llansantffraid, Betws and Aberkenfig will hold a summer fete at Sarn Life Long Learning Centre (community centre) on July 3 at 11am.

On sale will be cooked delicacies from the barbecue, home made jams and preserves, along with a large variety of stalls.

The choir rehearses at the All Saint's Church, Pen-y-Fai, on Wednesday evenings between 7pm and 9pm; new members are always given a warm welcome.

The cost will be £5 a car, and there will be a buffet and drinks in the Vicarage afterward.

Garden party
OGMORE Valley Ladies Choir and

Children's choir

Maesteg Children's Choir has been invited to sing at the famous Treorchy Male Voice Choir's 29th annual concert at the Park and Dare Theatre, Treorchy on October 14 at 7.30pm.

The choir is performing at its own 24th annual concert in Maesteg town hall tomorrow (Friday, July 2) at 7pm.

Head's thanks

TYNRHEOL primary school head-teacher Martin Griffiths thanks the PTA for their generosity in purchasing new kit for the school's basketball team.

The school's summer fete is taking place in Llangeinor football club's field on Saturday, July 3, between 12noon and 3pm.

Young talent
TONDU primary school music teacher, Mrs Lewis invites relatives to a concert titled 'Tondu's Got Talent' performed by children from Mrs Evans' and Mr Lewis' classes at the school on July 7 at 10.15am.

Tickets cost £3 each and proceeds will be used to purchase a digital piano for the school.

RPC outings

ABERKENFIG Retired Persons Club, which meets at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig every Wednesday afternoon. Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development and Bridgend College, and enables young musicians

to take part in local gigs with music industry-related training opportunities.

The club welcomes new members and more information can be obtained by phoning Joyce/Tom on 01656 720823/720026.

Kenfig choir's Cardiff concert to support their former maestro



KENFIG HILL Male Voice Choir recently honoured their past musical director, the Reverend Richard Spencer, by visiting his new parish church, Christ Church in Roath, Cardiff.

The choir's concert which was well attended by old and new parishioners, featured a two young local soloists, Rhian Hughes and Stephan Ulberini.



ABOVE: Applause for a duet by guest soloists Rhian Hughes and Stephan Ulberini.

Photographs by KEITH E MORGAN

Company are fined after worker's foot is amputated

A CONSTRUCTION worker needed his foot to be amputated after it became trapped by a metal sheet being driven into the ground at an excavation site in Barry, locals were told last week.

Vale Magistrates' Court at Barry heard details of the horrific incident after his employers, Morgan Est plc were prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) for failings leading to the injury.

Clive Morgan, (46), from Gilfach Goch, Rhondda, was installing interlocking metal sheets, known as piles, into the ground to prevent the collapse of an excavation for an underground pumping station at Barry Ponds.

Mr Morgan was standing on a horizontal beam in place to guide the pile into position, when his foot became trapped between the sheet and the beam, injuring his left foot so

seriously he later had it amputated.

The company, of Kent House, 14-17 Market Place, London, pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. The construction firm have been fined £12,000 with costs of £11,213.

The incident happened in February 2008 and the HSE investigation demonstrated that the work Mr Morgan was involved in was not being carried out in a safe manner, in that no one should be standing close to a metal pile as it is being lowered into position.

HSE Inspector Steve Richardson said that since the incident, the company have revised their procedures for installing piles and provided dedicated training for their operatives.

"This was too late for Mr Morgan, who remains unable to work and is still undergoing treatment," he added.



ABOVE:
The choir's conductors past and present – Richard Spencer and Philip Julifl.



Compere John Downes introducing the evening's programme of music

Get your GEM online:
www.bridgend-today.co.uk or
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

RIGHT:
John Mason introducing his new Book *Ben's Kingdom; Life in a Shed at the Prince of Wales public house, Kenfig. The charts the life of Ben Evans, who certainly qualifies for the description 'eccentric'.*



John's book remembers a Ton Kenfig character

JOHN MASON of Cefn Cribwr, a recently-retired teacher at Ysgol yr Ferch O'r Sger, launched a new book entitled *Ben's Kingdom; Life in a Shed* to a selective and appreciative audience at the Prince of Wales public house, Kenfig, on Thursday, June 17.

It was a family affair, with entertainment provided by John's daughter, Bethan Mason, singing and playing on the harp.

Bethan is the only Welsh performer to have won the prestigious Danny Kyle award at Celtic Connections in 2008.

She is renowned for her beautiful renditions of traditional songs and has performed at Glastonbury Festival, Lorient Interceltic Festival as well as the opening ceremony of Llangollen International Eisteddfod, where she played to thousands.

She will be singing and playing the harp with the Kenfig Hill Male Voice Choir at the open air concert to be held at Bedford Ironworks, Cefn Cribwr, at 6.30pm on Saturday, July 31. (Tickets at £5 each, can be obtained from John Mason on 01656 742348 and from Cefn Grocers and Cefn Newsagents.)

All the catering was kept in the family, and was provided by Mrs. Carol Mason. John first started

thinking about writing the book in 1995 when he was inspired by reading in Keith E. Morgan's book *Around Kenfig Hill and Pyle*, about Ben the Hermit, who lived on Kenfig Burrows in the inter-war years.

John has provided all the illustrations in the book himself.

Copies of the book are £5 each. It is fifth in the *Cefn Gwyrdd* series, and can be obtained from John Mason.

Book review by Keith E Morgan

The book describes the life and times of one Ben Evans, a colliery timberman, who tired of working in the mine and of civilisation, and 'retired' to the wilds and the life of a hermit on Kenfig Burrows.

He built himself a home out of drift wood on the sands and lived there for many years, with his only companions being two wild cats. The Bailiff of Margam Estate destroyed his hut twice, but gave up in the end when Ben built a dug-out as his third home.

Ben the Hermit lived with nature and has become a legend in our own time. He was part and parcel of the scenery and flora of Kenfig and Sker and as such, was accepted by all who knew him.

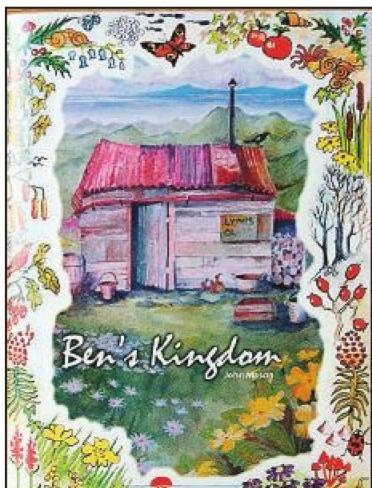
John has captured for all time in his book, part of the rich history and heritage of Kenfig. A very readable and well illustrated book suitable for both adults and children alike; a must for anyone interested in the history of our community.

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Standing with Bethan at the harp, are father John, mother Carol, and boyfriend Richard

LEFT: The cover of John's book.



THE GLAMORGAN GEM WORLD CUP ROUND-UP

As England arrive back home, the Welsh team talk is ready!



by TONY BENNETT

WELL the clash I thought would happen, happened.

Mighty encounter I wrote, The Three Lions of England would surely roar and charge into battle. Brian Blessed, his booming voice led the battle cry. "For Fabio, England and St. George."

What did we get, three kittens mewling as England crashed hopelessly out of the World Cup.

The cream of English football talent, finely tuned athletes, supposedly world class players, all very highly paid, were no match for a German team full of invention and tech-

nical ability.

I wonder what the reply would be if you were to the Dutch manager Bert van Marwijk. "Hey Bert, wanna swap a couple of your boys for some English lads?"

I suspect you would have to pick him up off the floor first, because he would have fallen over laughing so much.

He might then reply. "Not a chance, come back and see me when they have learned how to pass a ball."

I don't think he would even consider tackling the subjects of tactics and formations, that's way beyond them.

The only good thing English to come out of this World Cup, showing pride, passion and

roaring like three lions, were the fans. They were magnificent, out-singing the Vuvuzelas, and not one was arrested by the police in South Africa, well done them.

Lastly, on the subject of England, they have to play Wales twice in the next 18 months.

John Toshack's team talk should be easy, "get stuck into them lads because this lot aren't as good as they think they are."

The Italians also bombed out, joining the French in not getting past the group stage.

Slovakia beat them 3-2, leaving them without a win and bottom of the group table. The Slovaks then met

Holland in the last 16 and despite a valiant effort, lost 2-1.

The Dutch never really got out of second gear for that match, you had the feeling they were trying not to work too hard, saving something for the next round.

That brings us neatly onto Brazil. They have just cruised through the opening stage, even with Kaka being sent off against the Ivory Coast.

The Portugal v Brazil game was really disappointing, mainly because both teams only needed a draw to qualify.

Brazil then went into a match against Chile who, it has to be said, at least had a go at Brazil.

The final score though was 3-0 to Brazil.

Uruguay beat the plucky South Koreans 2-1 and again you had the feeling they too were trying to save some energy for what is to come.

The good ol' US of A, who had looked promising after topping England's group with a last gasp goal against Algeria, were wasteful in front of goal against the only African team left, Ghana.

That game went to extra time with Ghana scoring a winner in the first period and hanging on for a 2-1 win.

Spain, who started badly losing to Switzerland, got their act together beating Honduras and Chile to

win group H and that set up a meeting with Portugal.

Argentina have rolled over everyone so far and played attacking football of a high quality, the Tevez goal against Mexico is probably the goal of the tournament so far.

So by the time you read this, we will be down to the last eight teams.

What have we got left to feast our eyes on? Friday 3pm is

Holland v Brazil, this match-up has in the past produced some outstanding matches.

Friday, 7.30pm sees Uruguay v Ghana – South America v Africa.

Saturday, 3pm is Argentina v Germany, and must be worth a watch.

Lastly, Saturday night, 7pm should be Spain v Paraguay; Portugal and Japan might yet appear, I've had to predict that

one.

My prediction for the semi finals next week: Ghana to play Brazil and Argentina to play Spain.

Oh, and by the way, if you have any comments or thoughts about the World Cup, or if you're a fan who has been there and returned, let The GEM know by writing in, with your comments.

Girls Line up for their very own World Cup



IN conjunction with the FAW, Cadoxton Imps Coyotes girls football team is holding its own World Cup Festival for girls aged 6-11 at Barry Boys School on July 7.

For details, telephone Sue Deakin on 07967 711591.

ABOVE:
Girls in the Vale are getting the football bug!

Sponsorship plea

PONTYCLUN travel agent Sarah Wheeler will be running the Royal Parks Half Marathon in Hyde Park on October 10 to raise funds for charity and to help children in Kenya.

Anyone who would like to sponsor the run can contact www.justgiving.com/SARAH-WHEELER1

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TOUCH OF CLASS AS FONMON CASTLE HOSTS INTERNATIONAL POLO EVENT!

FONMON Castle played host to the St David's Polo Club last weekend, when an international match was played between Wales and England.

Away from the action, it was a chance for everyone to get dressed up in their finery, and enjoy a wonderful day in the sunshine.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail glyn.evans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.

*Now open in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



In England, patients are treated within 18 weeks of referral, but here it is a different story...

IN WALES, THEY COULD HAVE TO WAIT A YEAR!

A VALE woman is battling to get the waiting times for hospital treatment in Wales brought into line with those in England.

Pat Swain of Town Mill Road, Cowbridge, was shocked to find that while the Welsh Assembly Government stipulates that patients must be treated within 26 weeks of being referred to a hospital by their GP, in England the time is 18 weeks.

She is also perturbed to find that if a patient is referred on to a second consultant by the first one, the 26-week waiting time starts again from scratch.

"That means that you can wait a year for treatment in Wales from the time your GP makes the referral," she said. "The NHS in Wales is acting as if it is a lot of different organisations."

"I was referred from the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg board to Cardiff and the Vale and it was like dealing with two completely different organisations, instead of

all being part of the same health service. There is no co-operation at all between them."

Mrs Swain, who is 72, was initially referred to a gynaecologist at the Princess of Wales hospital last November by her GP who diagnosed a prolapse.

In December, she was told that she would have to wait between 12 and 14 weeks to see him.

In February, after a 13-week wait, she rang again and was told that the wait would be 17 to 18 weeks.

She later received an appointment for March 30 which would have been 20 weeks after referral.

She went on: "But on March 12, I had a letter cancelling the appointment and giving me a new date of April 13 which would have been 22 weeks after referral.

"I was then told that I would have to go back onto another waiting list and could wait a further 26 weeks in theory, although the time quoted was 12 to 14 weeks to see the consultant.

"I was told that nothing could be done because the new pathway started from the date the referral letter

is received. I was back to square one."

At this point, Mrs Swain started rattling a few cages and wrote to both health boards, to health minister Edwin Hart, shadow health minister Andrew RT Davies and to Vale AM Jane Hutt.

She then spoke to ABM, who said she could be referred to Singleton Hospital and she was in such discomfit and distress that she opted for this route.

"I saw the consultant on May 18 and he told me that there was an alternative treatment to surgery, which was to insert a ring pessary which he did there and then without any further delay."

Mrs Swain said that she had made a remarkable improvement and was seeing him again in October to see if the treatment had worked or whether or not she still needed surgery.

"I am feeling so much better, but I am surprised that this option was not offered to me initially in Bridgend. It was a simple procedure, which I am sure all gynaecologists are able to do so I am wondering why this treat-

ment was not offered. It would have saved me a lot of distress and hanging about."

"It seems that nobody cares about how much people are shuttled about between doctors and hospitals. You just feel that nobody is talking to anyone else."

Her husband Brian said that Pat had endured six months of purgatory.

"We do not blame the consultants but it is the administration of these things that is at fault. They are using the 26 weeks as a minimum time and not a maximum one."

Mrs Swain added: "I am very unhappy with why Wales should have to wait longer than England and I am still fighting for answers. There are other people in my position and they deserve better."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "I have taken up this case on behalf of Mrs Swain with the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg LHB, Cardiff and Vale LHB and the Minister for Health and Social Services to expedite this treatment."

• Do other GEM readers have an experience to share? Write to us at the address on page 2.

Alfred is wished 'many happy returns' at his 99th birthday celebrations!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALF!

CLOSE family and friends gathered at the Sportsman's Rest in Peterston-super-Ely on June 25 (a day early!) to wish one of the Vale's great characters, GEM contributor, Alfred Mills, a very happy 99th birthday. As can be seen from GEM photographer Ian Dixon's pictures of the happy event, Alfred is in fine fettle and the GEM is now looking forward to next year and his 100th birthday.

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The All Wales ploughing and hedging championships

THE Riverlea CLAAS 51st All Wales Ploughing and Hedging Championships will be held on Saturday, September 18, at Boerton Farm, Llantwit Major, on land owned by V J Thomas and Son.

More than 100 competitors will compete on the day, with classes including traditional, reversible and vintage ploughing, plus horse ploughing, traditional style hedging and fencing.

The winners qualify for the UK, European and World Championships. There will also be demonstration areas highlighting modern methods of ploughing, cultivating and seeding together with a number of trade stands and a large vintage machinery section.

Main ring attractions include Paws for Thought dog display team, a slow tractor race (!) and a falconry



ABOVE: Ploughing a straight furrow.

display. The president, Mr Tony Thomas, said: "We are delighted to be hosting this prestigious event and aim to attract many competitors from all over the country."

"We hope to have at least 12 teams of horses ploughing, along with competitions in hedging, fencing and World Class ploughing.

"Furthermore, it is hoped to have a steam ploughing demonstration and working threshing machine.

Steam ploughing was

the big breakthrough towards mechanisation from horse ploughing and it is fantastic that this method can still be demonstrated.

"I know a number of farmers who are very much looking forward to seeing it. I would like to thank our sponsors who are enabling us to provide these demonstrations and who will ensure that the day will be a great success".

• Prospective sponsors can contact the secretary on 01446 710376.

'Justice needs to be seen to be served in our own communities' Local politicians pledge to oppose threat to court

LOCAL politicians have pledged to fight to keep the Vale Magistrates Court open.

As *The GEM* revealed last week, the court at Barry is under threat, following the publication of a Ministry of Justice paper recommending closure.

Plaid Cymru's Dr Ian Johnson argued that it was vital that justice be provided close to the community it served.

"We all know that the court in Barry has been targeted for cuts for quite some time, and I joined staff in protesting against changes back in March.

"Justice needs to be served and delivered in our own communities, not transferred out in this way."

"This is just the first of the announced cuts from this new Tory-led Government that will have a negative effect upon our way of life in

by TIM CHAPMAN

Barry.

"Our new Tory MP, Alun Cairns recently told *The GEM* that the Vale needs to retain its own court at Barry.

"I hope that he will join me in fighting his own Government against their plans to shut this important centre."

The consultation document envisages a day when Vale cases will be heard in Cardiff.

Vale MP Alun Cairns stated that he was determined to ensure the court remained in Barry, and encouraged the public to make their views known during the consultation period.

He said: "I will do everything possible to stop the closure and ask that as many people as possible respond to the consultation. I was involved in the last campaign and as far as I can see, the need for the Vale Magistrates Court

remains."

Mr Cairns added that he was already concerned by the existing proposals to transfer court administration jobs out of the Vale to Bridgend.

He pointed out: "The transfer some time ago of the police custody suite from Barry to Cardiff will also make our case more difficult.

"But I will be pressing that Barry is Wales' largest town and that there is an important principle of local justice. The court has excellent facilities, with separate entrances for defendants and witnesses and it has a first class victim support group.

"We need to do all we can to make sure it stays open."

Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, said she was disappointed to see the shadow of closure hanging over the court after a successful campaign had

been fought to keep it open in the recent past.

She said: "I know the people of Barry will join me in saying we cannot let the new Government close our Vale Magistrates Court.

"We successfully made the case to keep it open when it was threatened four years ago.

"The Minister at the time, Harriet Harman, visited the court at my invitation and after considering the facts, viewing the facilities and meeting the staff, ruled against the closure.

"The evidence was as clear then as it is now. Barry is the largest town in Wales, it needs a local justice system which is accessible and effective, with facilities for victims, and a speedy criminal justice process for defendants."

The Vale AM revealed that she had written to the new Secretary of State for Justice, Kenneth Clarke, urging him to retain the court.

Fun dog show at the country park



Benji: one of those looking for a home.

ON Sunday, July 4 Dogs Trust Bridgend hosts its summer fête and fun dog show at Margam Country Park, from 11am - 4pm.

One of the day's highlights – the Fun Dog Show – will this year be judged by ITV Wales News presenter Francis Donovan alongside Dogs Trust Bridgend's No3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry.

No appointment necessary. Contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506 116.

Heritage Coalition takes part in Armed Forces Day

THE sun shone and the crowds turned out in their thousands to pay tribute to the country's servicemen and women at Armed Forces Day on June 26.

The national event was held in the picturesque setting of Cardiff Bay and the Vale Heritage Centre. Coalition joined the south Wales branch of the Western Front Association in the Pier Head building to stage

an exhibition of militaria, ephemera and collectables from the Great War.

VHCC chairman Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "The items on display were from our own personal collections and it was a great opportunity for us to meet the public, talk about the items and discuss the Great War in general.

"We were also able to offer an on-line research service for people interested in knowing what their rel-

atives did during the conflict. We were busy throughout the day and it showed how fascinated people are by the First World War.

"We also had a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the war running on giant screens.

"One of our WFA members, Gavin Davies, gave three illustrated talks on Mametz Wood, Messines and 1918 to large audiences," he reported.

WARD ADVICE

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Barry's Castletown ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell will hold an advice surgery on Saturday, July 3 from 10:30am to 12pm in the Drop-In-Centre, No3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry.

There will also be fun fair rides, have-a-go agility, a doggy dash race, refreshment stalls and much more.

For more information, call the Dogs Trust on 01656 725219.

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 624.

● £2000: 270245.

● The rollover, which now stands at £1,000

was not won this week.

● £10: 212120; 302358; 409785; 142887;

316120; 501765; 407877;

118381; 207899; 759560;

486233; 243221; 886589;

853746; 447395; 894915;

843292; 226748; 456128;

801638.

● £5: 547192;

697906; 192064; 667602;

182113; 701763; 234240;

344145; 391219; 628054;

770681; 612936; 371821;

693329; 877335; 158087;

208500; 266677; 366060;

353586; 558424; 582670;

412859; 817480; 106116;

786492; 889727; 612245;

838116; 685315; 792616;

530136; 268799; 851352;

378853; 826178; 760788;

120704; 552371; 378681;

694253; 994279; 144884;

813294; 644015; 559227;

382524; 501766; 887968;

611066; 258759; 328495;

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The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 02920 344145; 391219; 628054; 672062.

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• Steve Davies is pictured above presenting MPN with their award.

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BELOW: Student Ellie Lewis shows her granddaughter some of the decoupage that will be on display.



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So, if you need to save money, and don't know which way to turn, visit www.confusethemeercat.com to see what Sandra has to offer.

PALMERSTON EXHIBITION - PREPARE TO BE IMPRESSED

THE preparations are well under way for the annual art and crafts exhibition at Palmerston community learning centre.

The event is held to celebrate the achievements of learners who have attended a wide range of adult education classes in the Barry area.

It is anticipated that there will be more than 300 exhibits on display at the exhibition from a variety of classes, including painting and drawings, photography, pottery and ceramics, kiln glass fusion, precious metals, clay and jewellery, stained glass, decoupage and cardcraft, patchwork, quilting and textiles.

"Visitors to our art exhibition are always amazed at the standard of work on display," said Debbie Lewis, adult education officer, "So prepare to be impressed!"

This year, there will be a number of stalls selling crafts and produce – along with a raffle, tombola and refreshments. All proceeds will go to Help the Heroes.

The event opens on Thursday July 8, at 6.30pm – 8.30pm and continues through July 9

and 10 from 9.30am to 3pm. Admission is free and anyone is welcome to drop in to the centre to browse and enjoy the exhibits.

Tutors and students will be on hand with demonstrations and to chat about the courses.

There will be the chance to try some of the activities, including decoupage and cardmak-

ing, pottery and drawing.

Art tutor Gary Colston will be taking a free drawing workshop on Friday, July 9.

This is an ideal opportunity to find out more about new courses starting in September.

A limited number of places are available on the microwave glass workshop to be held on Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Vale of Glamorgan Community Learning Annual Art & Crafts EXHIBITION

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Vocational training leads to a new career

A LOCAL woman, who worked for a car dealership for 20 years until the partnership dissolved, has embarked on a brand new career as a training supervisor, after updating her IT skills and completing vocational training.

Sharon Couchman had worked for the business as an office manager for 20 years, and when it dissolved, she joined another company in the hope of learning new skills.

However, after quickly realising the job wasn't for her, she approached Pitman Training Cardiff to study the Microsoft Office Diploma to update her IT skills and improve her chances of securing another job.

Sharon studied at the centre on days off from her job, working her way through Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Excel, Access and account modules.

She finished the course in just three months, adding "I absolutely loved it. I found PowerPoint really interesting and I am now confident in putting

experience and there were two modules left to complete on my course but I knew I'd be able to help students as I had been there myself" she added.

Sure enough, Sharon impressed the interview panel and was offered the job.

"My advice to anyone thinking about learning something new is to just do it! It's a very user-friendly way of learning and you can fit it around your lifestyle."

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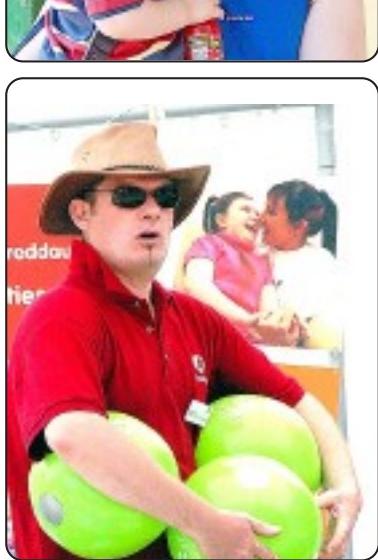
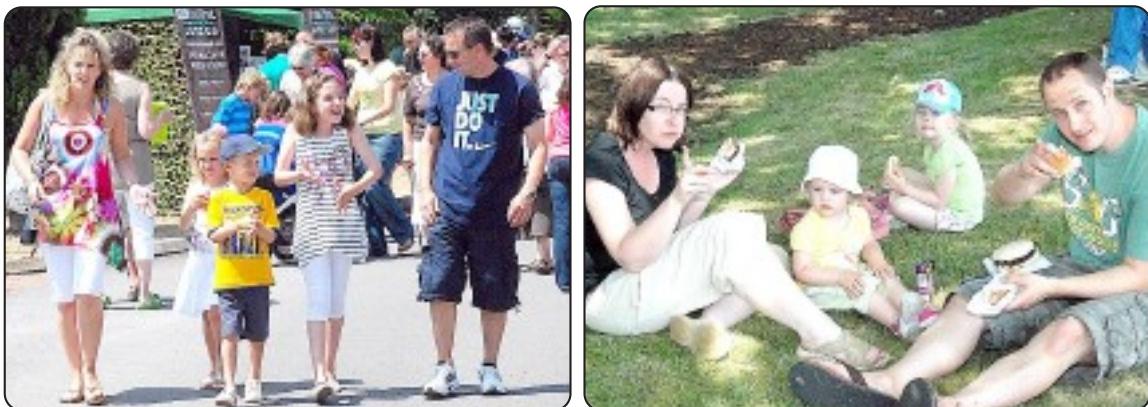
TY HAFAN'S GREAT DAY OUT IN VALE, ATTRACTS HUGE CROWDS TO SULLY

Photographs by
IAN DIXON

THE last Sunday in June provides one of the Vale's great days out – the Ty Hafan Fun Day.

Held at the site of the children's hospice, an idyllic location beside the sea in Sully, this year's event provided numerous stalls, ranging from ceramics to jewellery, music and songs, cream teas and lots of activities for the children (the stormtroopers were a big favourite).

For animal lovers there were even creepy crawlies and snakes from Animal Zone UK and an agility and skill display by the dogs of South Wales Police.



Miss Vale wins Miss Wales at glittering St David's Hall event

MISS Vale of Glamorgan, Courtenay Hamilton, was crowned Miss Wales at a glittering ceremony at St David's Hall in Cardiff on Saturday.

Courtenay (20) who lives on the Atlantic College site at St Donats, told The GEM: "At the moment I won, it was really emotional."

"Throughout the rehearsals, the interview and the three rounds. I just tried to be myself."

During the evening, the three rounds were: Welsh flag dress, party-wear and evening gown. In all, there were 50 girls



from all over Wales taking part.

Courtenay later heard that her interview with the judges earlier in the day had put her in the lead.

A fluent Welsh speaker, who has been a volunteer crew member with

the RNLI, Courtenay is now looking forward to the Miss World competition.

"It is being held in

China on the island of

Sanya in October.

"I will be doing a lot of charity work over the next year, and at

LEFT:
The emotional
moment when
Courtenay realised
she had won the
Miss Wales title.

Christmas I will be accompanying children to Lapland on behalf of the Joshua Foundation."

This year, The Joshua Foundation, a south Wales charity which provides holidays for children with terminal cancer, has benefited to the tune of £70,000 thanks to the Miss Wales competition.

In Cowbridge, there was particular delight at the news of Courtenay's win. Cowbridge Fashion Week had sponsored her.

Awen Evans, the co-owner of High Society and a member of the Cowbridge Fashion Week committee, said: "It is fantastic that she won because she is such an all-round talent. I know that lots of people locally voted for her."

"After the win, her mum and dad popped into the shop to thank us for the sponsorship."

New Gavin and Stacey bus tour is launched

THE first official Gavin and Stacey bus tour is being launched on July 10 at the home of the show, Barry Island.

Run by 'Brit Movie Tours', and endorsed by the Vale Council and the show's producers Baby Cow Productions, the tour – using the authentic 'Dave's Coach' – will

allow fans to see the key filming locations that were used across the county.

A Vale spokeswoman said: "There will be two types of tour – one that will bring fans to south Wales from London, and one that will start and end in Barry."

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WHAT a coincidence! Reading in The GEM on Thursday the interesting subject of bees and swarming in Fonmonn Apiary, it happened to David and Gwyneth Lewis (late of Penylan Farm) of St Brides Major on Wednesday of that week.

They discovered a swarm in their pear tree in the garden. Not knowing who to contact, ranger Paul Dunn of the Heritage Coast, a beekeeper, came along and collected them.

Beekeeping is an interesting subject I grew up with, as my family kept a number of hives for many years.

A BAPTISMAL

Service took place on Sunday, June 20, at St Bridget's Church, when the Houston family (John, James and Jessica) were christened. ST BRIDES MAJOR branch of the Mother's Union held their monthly Eucharist in All Saints Church,

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

Southerndown. A coach trip has been arranged for a visit to Sudely Castle, Gloucester, with a lunch at nearby Winchcombe; also later in July, a lunch at Ogmore Farm.

FRIDAY June 25 was a superb afternoon when 15 people from the village and friends met at the Fox car park to embark onto a long trailer behind a monster tractor for a ride – courtesy of Peter Davies of Slade (Organic) Farm, Pitcot.

To Dunraven (Durval) Drive to Grand Lodge, now sadly in disrepair, and on past the Ice House and overlooking Temple Shore.

Everyone enjoyed the experience, including the 80 and 90-year-olds sitting on bales of straw!

Our grateful thanks to Peter for arranging this for folk who can no longer walk along these beautiful footpaths in our area.

CONGRATULATIONS and happy birthday to Ursula Sanger of St Brides Major, who celebrated her 'special' birthday with family and friends on June 28.

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FACE'S offer to GEM readers

FACIAL and Cosmetic Enhancement Clinic is at 27, Castle Arcade, Cardiff.

It has 20 years of experience in all advanced treatments and has also been nominated by Cardiff Life magazine as one of the top clinics in south Wales, and was a finalist in the Beauty Awards 2007.

The clinic prides itself on its professionalism and impartial advice, offering a free consultation with the highest standards possible.

The clinic is offering discounts (for GEM readers only): On fat removal, which is comparable to lipo-suction, there is £300 off the treatment price; on the 'genie facelift', a facelift without surgery, there is £200 off the treatment price.

For more information, please go to www.facecosmetics.co.uk, or email info@facecosmetics.co.uk.

Brand and Hill's rock 'n' roll comedy entertains but fails to hit the heights

DESPITE having angered certain elements of Britain when having left answerphone messages on a certain elderly actor's answerphone, Russell Brand's career in America has gone from strength to strength.

Having built his recent reputation by squiring pop star du jour Katy Perry, and hosting the MTV Awards twice, Brand is revelling in his new-found fame, and finds himself on the big screen again in *Get Him To The Greek*.

Brand plays Aldous Snow, a character who most will remember from *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, who is chased down by record company intern Aaron Green (Jonah Hill). Green is tasked with getting him to The Greek Theater in LA, scene of his finest hour 10 years previously.

But getting Snow there is anything but simple, with Green having to navigate a mind-field of debauchery and madness in order to 'Get him to the Greek'...

While very funny, the character of Aldous Snow was hardly stand-

out in *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, nor was it one you felt had much in the way of mileage.

However, that film's director Nicholas Stoller obviously disagreed, and decided to both write and direct a film about Snow which, while amusing, never quite scales the comedic heights despite the talent on offer. While *Get Him To The Greek* certainly has its moments, there aren't enough of them to elevate it to being anything other than above average fare.

Given that Stoller obviously had a plan with where to take the character of Snow, he has opted for a straightforward and comedic route. Snow is a pompous rock star, unaware of anything other than his own sense of being, with little concern for those around him (imagine a pinch of Bono, a spoonful of Jim Morrison, the zest of Jagger and a dash of - unsurprisingly - Russell Brand).

Mixing this with the typical road movie premise, Green having to take Snow from London to LA in 72 hours, the resulting high jinks are easy enough to assume but don't quite come off.

Indeed, Stoller's script veers between the machinations of a road

movie, while taking pot shots at artists who believe they are more than just 'singers', resulting in some superbly struck targets (Snow's African Child album is deemed to be the third most harmful thing to have ever happened to Africa for example).

While Stoller makes some humorous jabs at the music industry there is very little bite to it, content enough to rely on the more straightforward, and ever so often, crude humour intent on getting the bigger laughs.

It's a plan that doesn't quite pay dividends, giving a talented cast little room to play. When they are allowed off the leash, the results are very good, but outside of those times the gags, and performances, struggle to really breakthrough.

It is a similar story with his direction, Stoller bringing a professional sheen to proceedings and stages the concert footage with a keen eye. However, aside from a clever camera shot involving Jonah Hill being injected with adrenaline, Stoller's direction is little more than basic, a case of point the camera at the action and film - it doesn't really give the movie much in the way of pace or style.

The performances are

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

the film's highlight, with leads Brand and Hill each showing why they are so highly regarded. For the former, this is his first foray into leading man territory and he handles it with skillful aplomb.

While his performance may be the biggest acting stretch since Eminem played a white, trailer park-dwelling rapper in *8 Mile*, Brand is never less than entertaining on screen, toning down his more eccentric flights of fancy to ground Snow in the world which he inhabits. He does the whole rock star thing perfectly, capturing the arrogance and belief that everyone around him is there for him only, yet is also able to show the heart of gold we all know lies beneath.

It is a turn of great confidence from Brand, while the occasional darker moments hint that the comedian may be able to transcend his comedy roots.

Jonah Hill similarly handles his move up the cast list well, again taking down his turn and playing foil to Brand's out-of-control whims. Hill has been a mainstay of Judd Apatow's work and delivers an assured turn that lacks the sparkle of Brand's, but makes up for it with enthusiasm and an ability to mine the slow building anger towards Snow.

With Rose Byrne showing a hitherto unseen comedic ability in the role of Snow's on/off girlfriend Jackie Q, some clever cameos from music figures, including a hugely amusing one from Metallica drummer/enemy of Napster Lars Ulrich, you have a cast that raises chuckles if not huge laughs; but the real revelation here is Sean Diddy' Combs.

His foul mouthed record company boss, Sergio Roma, is outstanding, veering off into wild tangents and threatening people's minds with something far worse than control, and plays a pivotal role in the film's funniest scene, *Enjoyable*.

where a Las Vegas party turns into a wild night that will put any viewers off having a 'Geoffrey' unless there is a furry wall close by (watch the film and it will all make sense!).

But despite the best efforts of Brand, Hill, Byrne and Combs, *Get Him To The Greek* doesn't fulfil the promise of raising the laughs you think it would.

Stoller's script tends to move things to dark places, particularly a final act move that feels both out of place and somewhat pointless come the conclusion. While Stoller's decision to include this does offer the film some depth, it doesn't quite pay off, and you wish there more jokes to come. The result is that *Get Him To The Greek* entertains, but never quite hits the heights.

VERDICT - Amusing but only fitfully laugh-out-loud funny, *Get Him To The Greek* is liveden by the turns of Jonah Hill and particularly Russell Brand, who may well be able to do this role in his sleep, but does it extremely well. Nicholas Stoller's script and direction are never more than serviceable, but the comedy stylings make this a diverting, if ultimately slight, viewing experience. *Enjoyable*.

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find good homes for dogs at the Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219)

Can you give Rio a home?

THIS WEEK: Rio is a nine-month-old male medium-sized crossbreed.

A spokeswoman writes: "Rio is a sensitive and under-socialised young dog who can panic in new situations."



"He gets on well with other dogs and will benefit from living with another dog as he is much more confident around them."

"He is a lovely, sweet boy and he can be very affectionate once he gets to know you."

"He needs a home with someone who has owned dogs before. He will benefit from living with a well-adjusted dog. He can live with children of 11 years and over."

"He will benefit from attending a reward-based training class to help build up his confidence. He will need plenty of exercise and fun things to do to channel his energy in the right direction."

Animal action day

THE Cardiff and district branch of the RSPCA is offering local resident pet owners micro chipping and pet advice at 'Community Animal Action Day', today (July 1).

RSPCA staff, volunteers and pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive School will be at hand in The Lesser Town Hall in Cowbridge from 10.30am - 3.30pm. Cat and dog owners, can bring your pet along to be micro chipped, with a donation to cover costs requested.

"We would encourage local residents to take advantage of these special offers as we are only in Cowbridge for one day," Verity Huxtable, Branch Animal Welfare Officer said.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE OCEAN LOUNGE

OPEN THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS

Friday 2nd July
MIKE ST JOHN Vocalist (9pm plus Bingo)

Saturday 3rd July
SMOKIN ACES
Classic Rock 'n' Roll Band (9pm)

Friday 9th July - **KARAOKE**

Saturday 10th July - **HOG ROAST with THE WHISKY RIVER BAND**

Freshly carved hog roast, fresh roll, salads, apple sauce and stuffing followed by

Swamp Music and Blues of the Bayou.
A night of swamprockin' barnstorming Zydeco Blue!

Doors open 7pm - Ticket entry £10

SALSA LESSONS

starting Wednesday, July 7th for 8 weeks - 7.30pm for 2 hours followed by dancing til late - Only £4 Ideal for complete beginners

CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday 2pm - 5pm
Every Thursday: Curry & A Pint £5.99
7-9pm - Quiz from 8.30pm

FOOD SERVED

Great Value menu from only £4.99
Traditional Sunday Lunch
Served 12 noon - 3pm from only £6.95



Welcome to . . .

Porthkerry's Got Talent 2010

Sunday Nights from 18th July until 30th August

The first acts will start at 7pm

Final August Bank Holiday Monday

Please pick up an application form for the full list of dates

May we introduce you to Porthkerry's Got Talent 2010, the second year of our annual talent event at the Ocean Lounge, Porthkerry Leisure Park. We hope the show will encourage both amateur and semi-professional entertainers to enter and showcase their talent and maybe this could be their first steps into work professionally in holiday venues, corporate events, cruises and television.

With a prize fund of £600 and judged by celebrated professionals in the media and entertainment industries, the show will be seen by many people who will vote for their favourite acts through the Audience Vote.

The contest is open to anyone over the age of 14. We are looking for any type of act including speciality, vocalists, dancers, duo's, instrumentalists, etc. to perform at the Ocean Lounge where full music and lighting facilities will be available to showcase your act in the best possible professional surroundings. We are hoping for celebrity judges at our Final in order to attract substantially more media attention and we are very proud this year to be supporting and raising money for a very special charity.

There is a £10 per act entry fee, which has been charged to attract serious entrants and is used towards staging and production. For application into Porthkerry's Got Talent please ring 01446 710362/711538 or email us at lordyplums@hotmail.com

***** Telephone: 01446 710362 / 711538 *****

Open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday evening from 7pm. Saturdays 12 noon - 4pm and 7pm - 12 midnight
Sundays 12 midday - 10.30pm - From Mid-July we will be open for lunches and evening meals.

Out and About with The GEM

Local exchange student wins a Rotary prize!



Rotary Club president Don Carsley presents Cathrine with a new camera and £75.

BARRY Rotary Club have congratulated a young photographer who came top of 400 entrants.

Part of a series of youth competitions which Rotary runs to encourage attainment of student skills, 40 contestants entered the 'Young Photographer' competition under the leadership of teacher Sian Phillips from Barry Comprehensive School.

The theme this year was the environment, and Cathrine Minde's black and white entry, showing sand falling from a hand with the sea in the background was judged the best.

Brian Trego, one of the judges from Barry

Deafblind Cymru peer support group

D E A F B L I N D Cymru have established a peer support group at Evergreen Hall in Bridgend, which meets on the first Tuesday of every month from 11am to 1pm.

There are speakers on audiology, from the

Friendship music Tree

THE Barry-based arts group is staging its next event under the 'Friendship Tree' in the tranquil setting of the Knap Gardens in Barry.

Share in a peaceful evening of acoustic music by Hank Hillman, on the theme of friendship.

The group also invites others to bring along any musical instruments and join in on Thursday, July 8, from 7.30pm.

For more information, contact: glyn@glynpoley.com

police, fire department and Age Concern are attending to provide advice and information.

The group gives anyone with combined sight and hearing loss the opportunity to meet others, learn new skills and receive information. It welcomes new members, their carers, family or friends and also needs volunteers to help out at the group. Contact Nerys Probert on 02920 601472 for further information.

Dyspraxia Group
THE next meeting of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will take place at 7.30pm on July 5, in the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.

The group provides support for children with dyspraxia and their families. It is running a laptop project to support pupils with dyspraxia.

Families of young people with dyspraxia and related conditions are welcome.

'I'm backing the carers' vows Vale MP Alun Cairns

"THE huge contribution made by carers in the Vale must be recognised by the local community," Tory MP Alun Cairns stated this week.

Statistics show that

76 per cent of people looking after ill, frail and disabled loved ones do not have a life outside of their caring role, facts highlighted during this Carers Week.

The MP for the Vale added: "Three quarters of carers say they have

lost touch with friends or family and four out of five are worse off financially because of their caring role.

"Sadly, there is not enough support provid-

SCOUT JUMBLE

THE 1st Dinas Powys scout group will hold a jumble sale on July 10, at 1.30pm in the Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys. Admission 50p.

Llanmaes Festival
The Blacksmiths Arms
beer, cider & food festival

Live Music, BBQ's, Cake & Food stalls, Bouncy Castle, Coconut Shy, Tombola, Vegetable & Flower competitions, Tug of War, Spirit of Llanmaes' photo competition, Tea & Coffee tent, Great selection of Real Ales & Ciders & lots more.

Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th July

For further details contact Mike and Jackie at
The BLACKSMITHS ARMS. 01446 795996.
www.blacksmithsarmsllanmaes.co.uk

Car Boot Sale
Plus Ferret Racing and Circus Workshop

Every Sunday 2pm-5pm at The Ocean Lounge,
Porthkerry Leisure Park, Rhoose

Telephone: 01446 710362

Vale of Glamorgan Show

Wednesday 11th August 2010
Fonmon Castle Park, nr Cardiff Airport



- James Dylan Stuntworld Display
 - South Wales Police Dogs Display
 - Cooke & Arkwright Food Hall
 - Cardiff Airport Home Produce Show
 - The Firewood Company Horticultural Show
 - Cattle, Pigs, Sheep, Horses
 - Craft Fair
 - BSJA Show Jumping
 - Countryside Area
 - KC Dog Show
 - Punch & Judy
 - Over 200 Trade Stands
- Contact 01446 710099**
www.valeofglamorgan.co.uk
- A great day out for all the family!*

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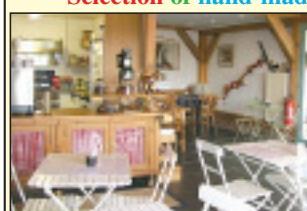
Dinky Dexters
menu - various tea time treats!

Dexters is a country tearoom where you can chill out!

DEXTERS @ FELINDEIRE MILL on the border of the Vale is a farm with a difference, and is just two minutes from J35/M4 and 10 minutes from Cowbridge.

Our country tearoom, set in a traditional timber-framed barn, offers morning coffee, light lunches and afternoon tea. There is even a tasty, dinky Dexters menu for the children! So if you are looking for somewhere to chill out, or meet friends for a coffee and a chat, why not call in and see us? We're sure Boris the cockerel and his brood of hens will be pleased to see you.

*Linda, Geraint and family extend a warm welcome to you all.
Open Thursday to Sunday from July 8th
Selection of hand-made crafts and cards.*



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Please visit us and the animals soon!

Bridgend County Show

9th,10th & 11th July 2010
Pencoed College, Pencoed, J35 M4



Horses, Show Jumping, Gymkhana, Pony Club Games, Inter Hurdle Challenge, Vintage & Classic Vehicles, Goat, Dog & Poultry Classes, Garden and Cookery Demonstrations, Trade Stands, Craft Stalls Sports Displays and Demos Plus Much Much More

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Zenergy Psychic Fayre

Saturday, 17th July, 2010

10.00am - 6.00pm

Llantwit Major Rugby Club

Psychics, Tarot Readings, Holistic Therapists and New Age Gifts.

Free Entry. You choose which Psychic, Reader or Therapist you want.

Prices only £18 - £20

Come along and get the inspiration to take the reins of your life and live the life you desire.

Book now for our second Spell Weaving Workshop in West Wales - Thursday, 5th August.

Limited places. Cost of £109 includes workshop, transport and organic lunch.

Full details from Zenergyinfo@yahoo.co.uk or telephone: 07979 985630 or 07840 867732

HELPING THE FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS

AN assisted home ownership scheme operated by Newydd Housing Association in partnership with the Vale Council will help first-time buyers in Barry to get their feet on the property ladder.

The Homebuy scheme, which has been awarded funding from the Welsh Assembly Government, will be available in Barry's Casteland ward (excluding properties on the Waterfront development) which was declared a renewal area in April 2010 and is prioritised for regeneration.

The scheme aims to help first-time buyers who can't afford to meet the full cost of a property purchase their first home on a 'shared equity' basis.

Buyers will be expected to contribute a mortgage covering 70 per cent of the property value, which they will then own. The remaining 30 per cent equity is retained by Newydd Housing Association, with the option to purchase at a later date enabling full home ownership. No rent is payable on this 30 per cent.

Buying a property through the Homebuy scheme will still incur the normal costs associated with buying a property on

the open market, including valuation and survey fees, solicitor and land registry costs, search fees and stamp duty (if applicable).

However, a deposit is not required as this will be taken from the 30 per cent equity share owned by Newydd.

To be eligible for the scheme, applicants must:

- Be over 18 years of age,
- Be a UK or EU/EEA passport holder or have indefinite leave to remain stamped in their passport,
- Have lived or worked in the Vale for six months,
- For those leaving the Armed Forces, have lived in the Vale for six months prior to joining the Armed Forces,
- Be able to meet the long-term financial commitment of home ownership but not be able to afford 100 per cent of the price of a property suitable for their need,
- Be a first-time buyer.

For more information or to apply for the scheme, please call the council's contact centre, contact OneVale, on 01446 700111 and ask for Homebuy.

Barrivale Bridge Club

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club:

June 15 – 1st, Jane Brook and Celia Thomas 63.49 per cent; 2nd, Denis Mottram and Noelle Bond 62.70 per cent, 3rd, Mark Roderick and Mike Close 61.90 per cent.

Jane and Celia also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, call 01446 733425.

PHOTO TALK

UNIVERSITY of the Third Age, Phillip John Room, Barry Library, Monday July 5: talk illustrated with photographs by Mr Bernard Brown.

COWBRIDGE THIRD TEAM ARE JUST PIPPED BY PONT

PONTARDawe is a pleasant ground to play on, and for once the West Wales side was not relegated to an artificial strip.

The ground is surrounded by trees, with both a river and an old canal within walking distance for those of the batting side not on the field or scoring.

On this occasion, Pontardawe elected to go out into the scorching heat while Cowbridge batted. This initially looked a poor decision, as Michael Hordley set about the bowling while Jon Brazier

supported him steadily from the other end after the loss of the number two.

Michael was eventually out for 35 and, with an encouraging input from Phil Graham (14) the score reached 88 for 3, Jon Brazier making 22.

From then on, apart from the welcome return of Nat Elliott Green, who also made 14, there was little batting success, and the total was only 126 all out.

Although some of the regular bowling was missing the recent discovery of new wicket-keeping talent allowed Michael Hordley to

bowl through his overs without having to go behind the stumps afterwards, and in a very spirited attack he took five wickets for 33 runs.

When the opposition were on 76 for 6, with what was obviously a very young tail to come in, hopes were raised, but once again a senior player in the other side seized the game and Pontardawe lost no further wickets before they matched Cowbridge's total.

It may have been a losing game but it was played competitively to the end and the decision remained in doubt until the last few overs.

Who wants to build what and where?

*Mr David Evans – David Evans Agricultural, Old Middle Hill, Walterston, Llancafan – retention of use for Barn No.1 for agricultural machinery
Mr McCarthy – 185 Gladstone Road, Barry – conservatory to rear elevation,
Mr Wayne Roderick – 58 Millfield Drive, Cowbridge – double storey side extension (east side).
Mr Chay Webb – 1 Friars Road, Barry – proposed pitched roof side extension incorporating garage with floorspace above.
Mr Duncan John – 1 Cold Knap Way, Barry – demolish dilapidated plant house/greenhouse, porch and WC. Construct single storey building.
Broadlands Property Investments – 1 Mill Barns, Mill Road, Boerton –*

change of use of summer house to a single dwelling.

Mr Gwyn Jones – 3 Cambrian Avenue, Llantwit Major – single storey side extension to kitchen.

The Church in Wales – The Rectory, Llantwit Major – works to various trees.

Mrs Anne Germanacos – 2 White House, Cold Knap, Barry – installation of pc garage door to existing carport, to match existing adjacent garage door.

Mr A Reid – Glenview House, Llanbetherwy – proposed single storey porch to the rear elevation.

Mr D Ellis-Thomas – 6 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit – fell Ash and coppice Field Maple.

Mrs Catriona Davies – Mulberry House, Trerhyngyll – erection of stables within residential curtilage.

Mr D Ellis Thomas – 3 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit – fell Lawson Cypress.

Mr Rehaz Abdulla – 40 High Street, Barry – existing ground floor office to be converted into one bedroom self-contained apartment.

Mr Stephen Jenkins – 6 Church Road, Penarth – reduce in size and single storey side extension at the

Barn, Boerton Mill Barns, Boerton – proposed new vehicular access and drive, together with a double garage/stable and separate double garage.

Mr D Ellis-Thomas – 6 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit – fell Ash and coppice Field Maple.

Mrs Catriona Davies – Mulberry House, Trerhyngyll – erection of stables within residential curtilage.

Mr D Ellis Thomas – 3 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit – fell Lawson Cypress.

Mr Rehaz Abdulla – 40 High Street, Barry – porch on front of house.

Jane Goodfellow – 1 Gelli Garn Cottage, St Mary Hill – proposed two storey extension to side and rear of existing house and addition of a double garage.

Mr John Butcher – 167 Pontypridd Road, Barry – single storey shower room extension.

rear of the property.

Mr and Mrs Sadler – 65 Westbourne Road, Penarth – construction of single storey rear extension and alterations to roof of existing single storey rear annexe.

Mr David Pegg – 78 Castle Avenue, Penarth – retention of car port.

Mr and Mrs Davies – 7 Kestrel Way, Lavernock Park, Penarth – conservatory extension to rear elevation.

Mr Larry Dean – 24 Clos Yr Wyfan, Barry – porch on front of house.

Jane Goodfellow – 1 Gelli Garn Cottage, St Mary Hill – proposed two storey extension to side and rear of existing house and addition of a double garage.

Mr and Mrs Stuart and Andrea Pace – Treetops, Leckwith Road, Llandough – proposed works to comprise an extension to first floor over existing garage and single storey extensions to rear.

Mr and Mrs Killick – 19 Broadway, Cowbridge – dismantle conifer, 2-3m crown reduction to purple plum, dismantle holly.

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Two bed property.
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£64,995
Ogmore Terrace, Nantymoel
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£81,000
Llangeinor Terrace, Lewistown
Three bedroom terrace.
Open views.



£112,995
Mill Lane, Bridgend
Two bedroom cottage.
Character property.



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Hazel Mead, Brynmelyn
Cul-de-sac location.
Viewing recommended.



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Highland Avenue, Bryncethin
Four bedroom dormer.
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Four bedroom.
Town location.



£220,000
Gery-y-Coed, Brackla
Four bedrooms.
Detached property.



£235,000
Abergarw Road, Brynmelyn
Four bedroom house.
Business opportunity.



£99,950
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Two bedroom house.
Loft room.



£114,500
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Bridgend Athletic under-9s look back on a fine season



BRIDGEND Athletic under-9s held their annual presentation awards recently, and looked back on an excellent year.

The meeting was addressed by coach Paul Obb, who said: "I would like to thank my fellow coaches, Wayne Fooks and Phil John, for their continued support and to our helper Mike Groom.

"I must also thank Mandy and Jannean for their first aid work and Mark Hermolle and David Tidy for some fantastic photos.

"Next season, the team step up to under-10s, so there will come a few changes in the game, ie screens and lineouts.

"I'm sure the squad, with the talent they have already shown, will be ready for the challenges that lie ahead."

He added: "On behalf of all the coaching team and players, I must give a huge thank you, to you the parents and family members, who have helped and contributed to a great season.

"Many thanks must also go to our sponsors: M&C Civils (Bridgend) Ltd, and Project Developments, Bridgend, for supplying us with fantastic and much needed kit."

Awards were as follows:

Most improved for the Yellows - Chris Hart.

Player's Player - Connor Fabian, also captain for 2010-11 season.

Daryl Dyke Award (for commitment and determination) - Ffion Revill.

Most promising for the Yellows - Lewis King.

Most improved for the Greens - Teo Fillis.

Top try scorer - Thomas Anthony.

Player of the year - Thomas Anthony, also vice captain for 2010-11 season.

Most improved for the Greens - Daniel O'Sullivan.



ABOVE:
The coaches and backroom staff at Bridgend Athletic under-9s.



ABOVE:
Teo Fillis.
BELOW:
Chris Hart.



ABOVE:
Double award winner Thomas Anthony.
BELOW:
Connor Fabian.
BELOW:
Lewis King.



From left: Paul Taylor (Bridgend), Chris Blake (Barry Athletic), Glyn Thomas (Barry Athletic), Alun Hodges, Alex Meddins (Dinas Powys), Robert Horgan (Barry Athletic). Missing from the picture is Jason Greenslade (Dinas Powys).

Super six lined up to bowl for Wales

THE Vale of Glamorgan Bowls Association team manager Alun Hodges (Dinas Powys) is pictured with five of the six Vale players who have been selected to repre-

sent Wales in the forthcoming home international series against England, Scotland and Ireland at Worthing.

The players carry on a fine tradition of Welsh international honours from local clubs.

Schoolboy ace Tom is the master of the karting track

NOT satisfied with having won his previous four British finals back-to-back, highly-rated young local karting hotshot Tom Harvey, has now made it a staggering six-from-six in the latest round of the 2010 Super 1 Series at Rowrah in Cumbria, to eke out an advantage in the title standings that could prove significant come season's end.

Having triumphed at Rowrah two months earlier in fellow national championship Formula Kart Stars (FKS) in form Tom returned to the challenging Cumbrian circuit as Super 1 champion/ship leader.

The Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil (12) said: "We were aiming to remain consistent and keep on bagging the points – a couple of top five finishes was the target," Bonvilston-based Tom revealed.

"I was feeling confident, because we had established a good set-



ABOVE: Tom Harvey.

up for Rowrah in FKS and I was quick in practice. I enjoy the track; it's really technical and undulating – just turn-after-turn-after-turn. That makes it really demanding, and definitely a drivers' circuit."

Consistency is very much a hallmark of Tom's campaign to-date – and the session equalled the 12-year-old's best qualifying spot of the year so far.

Victory in both of his heat races underlines his talent.

It earned Tom pole for the first of the two all-important finals, which he won.

The second final developed into a two-

horse race: "I pulled out a little bit of a lead, but then coming onto the last lap I caught a backmarker right on the racing line.

"That slowed me down and let the driver behind catch me up, which meant I had to defend my heart out all the way to the chequered flag. I was always confident of being able to hold him off, though, because I know how to defend well at Rowrah."

The magnificent run has seen undefeated Tom extend his margin atop the chase for the coveted crown from eight points going into the weekend to 36 now.

Police team look ahead

SOUTH Wales Police Youth RFC are looking back on the 2009-10 playing season with a sense of achievement, as it was the first time the Police had set up a youth team and they were entering unknown territory.

The first training session for next season is on Thursday, July 1, at Waterton Cross (7pm), and the senior and youth will train together for this first session.

Following on from that session, the youth will train every Monday and Thursday at 6.30pm, the seniors will train Tuesdays and Thursdays. All current and new playing members are welcome.

The senior squad will also benefit this year with eight of last year's successful youth team stepping up,

including youth captain Lee Roderick, along with vice-captain Mathew Jones, promising fly-half Craig Davies, Tom Rees, Mathew Boal, Dan Harris, Ashley Berrows and Hywel Roberts.

Vice-captain Jones and fly-half Davies put in some solid performances on the recent senior tour to the Cayman Islands.

Friendlies for the seniors will be announced shortly, with the youth opting for a pre-season tour.

Any players wishing to join the youth are welcome to attend the training. Alternatively, contact 07780 547974 for further details.

Looking to play under-16s rugby for 2010-2011? Why not attend a meeting at South Wales Police RFC, Tuesday, July 6, at 6.30pm?

KM



ABOVE:
The Daryl Dyke award (for commitment and determination) went to Ffion Revill.



ON A COLD EVENING, Barry Athletic under-11s were the visitors at Dinas Powys.

Dinas Powys won the toss and the skipper put Barry in to bat first. Barry lost an early wicket after good fielding from Dinas, but after this there was some sensible defensive batting from both Calvin Fahiya and Lawrence Walpole, working the ball around for singles and keeping the scorecard moving.

It was important when Saul and Rhys came to the crease that they applied the same determination, and with some fine bowling from Dinas,

TWO WINS FOR BARRY ATHLETIC UNDER-11S

the boys did well to only lose one more wicket, and the game was even. Sam and Joel increased until a great two overs from Lawrence Walpole (with three wickets) managed to put Barry well in the driving seat.

In between, Rhys Woolmer bowled some fine line and length.

Unfortunately for the Dinas lads, once you lose some wickets you are always chasing and having to play more shots to catch up with the run rate. This was their downfall as further wickets fell to Joel, Sam Evan and Calvin.

The best bowling performances went to Rhys, Connor, Luke and Jack L. Best batting performances went to Sam, Calvin and Joel, all showing great technique. The Dinas Powys

boys did well to only lose one more wicket, and the game was even. Sam and Joel increased until a great two overs from Lawrence Walpole (with three wickets) managed to put Barry well in the driving seat.

Best bowling, Lawrence three wickets for 4 runs and Joel, two wickets for 5 runs.

Both wicketkeepers

performed well, with good ground fielding by Calvin and Evan.

Result: Barry won by 68 runs. Man of the match – Lawrence Walpole.

Under-11s at Cowbridge

This was a good win-

for Barry, after managing to score 10 boundaries in their innings of 306 – the main stars of the innings being Evan Wells and Calvin Fahiya.

There was some very good bowling by Lewis Thomas and Ieuan Moss, both taking wickets.

The Barry bowling attack looked very strong and there was a great deal of consistency in line and length.

Once again, the star man was Evan Wells taking two wickets, but also there were two cracking spells of bowling by new boys Cameron and Kieran. Both demonstrated some excellent all round skills in their first outing for the club.

Barry swimmers celebrate batch of personal bests



RIGHT:
Kyle Booth,
Sam Smith,
Elizabeth
McCulloch
and Ellie
Booth

RECENTLY, members of the Barry Amateur Swimming Club took part in the south east Wales regional junior development meet.

The event saw a large number of swimmers from across the area take part in a pentathlon swim over the two days. All swimmers competed in each event (freestyle, breaststroke, butterfly, backstroke and individual medley).

The times from each event were added together to produce the top six swimmers in each age group.

Elizabeth McCulloch in the 10-year-old age group finished in bronze medal position after the five events, producing five personal bests and in doing so she shaved 15.81 seconds off her previous best time in the 200m freestyle with a time of 2:55:39, and in the 100m butterfly, reducing her time by

more than one minute 15 seconds to produce a time of 1:45:48.

Ellie Booth (11 years) finished fourth overall in her age group, also with personal bests in her five events, notably 100m butterfly 1:42:09 reducing her previous best by 7.5 seconds.

The boys, not wanting to be outdone, produced a number of fast times. Taking part were Sam Smith (10 years) with a terrific 50m breaststroke result of 1:14:72 shaving off 20.34 seconds from his previous best.

The youngest member, Kyle Booth (eight), having to swim in the 8/9 years age group, produced a great swim in the 100m individual medley 1:57:87, taking off nine seconds from his previous best.

Barry Amateur Swimming Club is always looking for new members to join the club. Telephone Mrs Heddwen Cooper on 01446 733784.

HM

KENFIG HILL TRAINER'S LATEST WIN

ON AND OFF THE TURF with BRIAN LEE

FIVE-YEAR-OLD Benedict Spirit, trained at Kenfig Hill by John Flint and ridden by his son Rhys, landed the Banner Marquees Maiden Hurdle (division one) at Uttoxeter on Sunday.

In doing so he beat another locally-trained horse, *Our Guardian Angel*, trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthin and ridden by stable jockey Richard Johnson, Benedict.

Benedict Spirit, who won by a length was a 2-1 chance.

There was another Welsh one – two when former point-to-pointer *Feeling Real*, trained by Rebecca Curtis, and ridden by champion jockey Tony McCoy, made all the running to beat *Corse Palladio*, trained by Peter Bowen at Newton Abbot.

Tim Vaughan had a

double with *Kopylova* and *Maggie Aron*, while Llancarfan's Evan Williams won the opener with *Tin Pot Man*.

Both trainers saddled winners at the Bangor-on-Dee evening meeting. Williams scoring with *Beyond* and Vaughan with *Spirit Of Adjisa*.

Earlier in the day at Southwell, Williams won with *Cannon Fire* and Vaughan with *Lady Soughton*.

These two Vale trainers have certainly made a name for themselves in the world of horse racing.

You can email your news/views to Brian Lee at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone him on 02920736438.

We welcome your sports reports:
gemsales@internet-today.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

THE STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAYS (BEACH ROAD, MARCROSS, LLANTWIT MAJOR, VALE OF GLAMORGAN) ORDER 2010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Welsh Ministers have made an Order under Section 247 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to authorise the stopping up of the areas of highway described in Schedule 1 to this Notice.

The stopping up is authorised only in order to enable the development described in Schedule 2 to this Notice to be carried out. The Order ceases to have effect if the planning permission expires or is revoked.

Copies of the Order and the deposited plan may be inspected free of charge during normal opening hours at The Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Valeence, Vale of Glamorgan CF5 6AA or may be obtained free of charge from the address below quoting the Welsh Assembly Government reference CE310-5-72-qA84849001.

If any person desires to question the validity of the Order or of any of the provisions contained therein, on the grounds:

- that it is not within the powers of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990; or
- that their interests have been substantially prejudiced by a failure to comply with any of the requirements of the Act;

that person may, within 6 weeks of 1 July 2010, apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision contained therein.

A copy of the Order and Notice can be viewed on the Welsh Assembly Government's website at www.wales.gov.uk (select: Legislation/Subordinate Legislation/Non-Statutory Instruments/Transport, Wales/TOPA Stopping Up Orders/2010).

M D BURNELL
Transport Planning & Governance Division

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

(all measurements are approximate)

Description of the areas of highway to be stopped up under this Order.

A triangular shaped area of all purpose highway on the eastern side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llanllwitt Road opposite Castle Farm House and measuring 14.6 square metres identified as area A on the deposited plan.

A triangular shaped area of all purpose highway on the north eastern side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llanllwitt Road opposite Castle Farm House and measuring 3.1 square metres identified as area B on the deposited plan.

An irregular shaped area of all purpose highway on the western side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llanllwitt Road opposite Horse Shoe Inn and measuring 267.5 square metres identified as area C on the deposited plan.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the proposed development.

The conversion of a redundant farm building into a dwelling at Village Farm, Marcross, Vale of Glamorgan in accordance with the planning permission granted on appeal by an Inspector appointed by the Welsh Ministers on 23 April 2006 under Appeal Reference APT/2005/04/88/2063400.

A COPY OF THIS NOTICE IN LARGER PRINT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM TRANSPORT PLANNING & GOVERNANCE DIVISION 3, WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT, CATHAYS PARK, CARDIFF CF10 3NQ.

DEDDF CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF 1990

GORCHYMYN CAU PRIFYRDD (BEACH ROAD, MARCROES, LLANILLTUD FAWR, BRO MORGANWG) 2010

HYSBYSIR DRWY HYN fed Gweinidogion Cymru wedi gynllunio o dan Adran 247 o Ddeddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990 i awdurdodi cau rhannau o'r brifffordd a ddigrifir yn Atodion 1 i'r Hysbysiad hwn.

Ni chwrn awdurdiod i gau'r brifffordd a er mwyn galluog i'r ddiathlogiad a ddigrifir yn Atodion 2 i'r Hysbysiad hwn gael ei wreud. Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn yn peidio â bod yn effeithiol os daw'r caniatâd cynllunio i ben neu o dilynnir ef.

Gellir arwain i'r copiar o'r Gorchymyn a'r plan a adneuwyd yn ystod oriau swyddfa ardal yr Afonydd Bro Morgannwg, The Alps, Gwenfaw, Bro Morgannwg CFS 6AA neu gellir eu cael yn rhed ac am ddim a'r cyfeiriad iedyn drwy ddyfnyddio cyfeiriad Llywodraeth Cymru'n ddilys Cymru C2510-5-72-qA84849001.

Os bydd unrhyneb berwon yn dynnu hero dylarwyd y Gorchymyn, neu ddyliwyd unrhyneb iddarpariaeth sydd ynddo, ar y salt:

- a. nad yw o fewn peirau Ddeddf Cynllunio Gerlad a Thref 1990; neu
- b. bod ei fuddiannau wedi cael eu rhagfarn a'i sylweddol oherwydd methiant i gydymffurfio ag unrhyneb un o ofynion y Ddeddf;

caiff y person haenw, o fewn 6 wythnos i 1 Gorffennaf 2010, wreud cas i'r Uchel Llys ariant neu diddymur y Gorchymyn neu unrhyneb iddarpariaeth a goir ynddo.

Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r Hysbysiad ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymru ar www.cymru.gov.uk (Detholiad: Ddeddfwaith-is-deddfwaith/Offerynnau Amrtadau/Trafnidiaeth Cymru/Gorchymyn Cau Prifyrdd Ddeddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref/2010).

M D BURNELL

Yr Is-adran Cynllunio a Llywodraetha Trafnidiaeth

YR ATODLENNI

ATODLEN 1

(brif amcan yw pob misuriad)

Digrifiad o'r rhannau o brifffordd sydd i'w cau o dan y Gorchymyn hwn.

Rhan o brifffordd bob pŵrpas ar siap triongl ar ochr ddyneiniol y gubor seugyr (rhan o Village Farm, Marcross) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanllwitt gyferbyn â Castle Farm House sy'n mesur 14.6 o fetrau sgwâr a ddyndir yn ardal A ar y plan a adneuwyd.

Rhan o brifffordd bob pŵrpas ar siap triongl ar ochr ogledd-dyneiniol y gubor seugyr (rhan o Village Farm, Marcross) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanllwitt gyferbyn â Castle Farm House sy'n mesur 3.1 metr sgwâr a ddyndir yn ardal B ar y plan a adneuwyd.

Rhan o brifffordd bob pŵrpas ar siap triongl ar ochr orllewinol y gubor seugyr (rhan o Village Farm, Marcross) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanllwitt gyferbyn â Horse Shoe Inn sy'n mesur 267.5 o fetrau sgwâr a ddyndir yn ardal C ar y plan a adneuwyd.

ATODLEN 2

Digrifiad i'r datblygiad arfaethdeg.

Trosi adedol hwm sy'n seugyr yn unedd yn Village Farm, Marcross, Bro Morgannwg yn unol â chaniatâd cynllunio a roddwyd pan nimed apil gan Alwyddog a benodwyd gan Weiniadur Cymru ar 23 Ebrill 2008 o dan Gylchymod Apil APR/2008/04/88/2063400.

GELLIR CAEL COPI PRINT

BRAS O'R HYSBYSIAD HWN

GAN IS-ADRAN CYNLLUNIO A LLYWODRAETHU TRAFNIDIAETH 3, LLYWODRAETH CYNLLUNIAD CYMRU, PARC CATHAYS, CAERDYDD CF10 3NQ.

Barry swimmers celebrate batch of personal bests

RIGHT:
Kyle Booth, Sam Smith, Elizabeth McCulloch and Ellie Booth



RECENTLY, members of the Barry Amateur Swimming Club took part in the south east Wales regional junior development meet.

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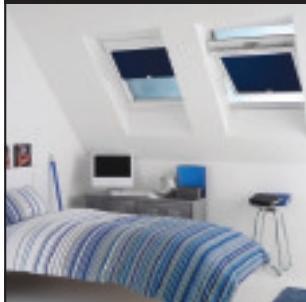
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Family Notices**HISCOCK Jennifer Mary**

Four years... 02-07-06
It broke my heart to lose you,
You did not go alone,
Part of me went with you,
The day God called you home.
Love Phil XXX

THOMAS Susan Patricia - 'Susie'

Formerly of Mount Pleasant Farm, Llangan. David, Jillian and family would like to sincerely thank all those who attended Susie's funeral and Thanksgiving service at Coychurch Crematorium on June 23, and for their generous donations in lieu of flowers to Macmillan Nurses. Also, for all the support, help and genuine kindness shown by so many at this very sad time.

GRIFFITHS Dewi

Passed away on June 28th aged just 68. He was a loving husband to Jennifer and devoted grandfather to Gwen. He is joining his beloved daughter Amanda, Jennifer, Gwen, his family and his many, many friends will miss him always.

Funeral service at Ewenny Priory Church, Ewenny, Monday, July 5th at 2pm. Family flowers only please.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Woodland Trust, c/o Funeral Directors, JR & MF David, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB

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Peterston-super-Ely community event is an excellent way to relax on Fathers' Day

ST PETER'S CHURCH in Peterston-super-Ely hosted a special Fathers' Day party recently.

The fun day was held in the community field with a picnic, music, games and (of course) a bar!

There was entertainment from a brass band, made up of students from the Welsh College of Music and Drama, and a performance from the St Peter's Church choir, conducted by James Bull.

Photographs by IAN DIXON

RIGHT:
It was perfect weather for putting a sun hat on your little one and relaxing on the village green with a cool drink!

BETWEEN:
Something is just out of reach!



VALE KARATE ARE NAMED 'TEAM OF THE YEAR' AT SPORTING HONOURS EVENT



ABOVE:
Guest speakers and award presents Gareth Humphries with host Arfon Haines-Davies.

THE sporting exploits of elite athletes, up and coming stars, and coaches and volunteers in the Vale have been recognised at the county's annual 'Sports Personality of the Year' awards.

Organised by the Vale District Sports Council and supported by the Vale Council's sports and play development team, the ceremony was held at the Memorial Hall in Barry and rewarded achievements on the sporting scene during 2009.

In all, there were nine awards and the winners came from a vast array of sports, highlighting the depth and variety of sporting talent in the Vale.

In the senior awards, Barry boxer Andrew Selby added to his 'Best Welsh Boxer of the Year' title by scooping the Vale's Senior Male award, and he will be hoping for further glory when he competes at the

Commonwealth Games later this year.

In the Senior Female category, Penarth resident Hannah Fisher pipped skier Alice Hales to the award for her international lacrosse success.

Sixteen-year-old swimmer Ieuan Lloyd won gold and silver medals at the European Youth Olympic Festival in July 2009, earning him the Vale's Junior Male award, while all-rounder Katie Bradbury was named Junior

Female of the Year for her unique achievement of gaining international honours in two very different sports at the same time – squash and golf.

Another multi-talented athlete to collect an award was James Savory in the Disabled Sports Performer category, while Volunteer of the Year was Ann Horgan for her enthusiasm and devotion to Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club.

Delighted with the evening's success, the chair of the Vale District Sports Council, Tony Smith, said: "Everyone who was nominated for an award can be very proud of their achievements."

"It gives us great pleasure to acknowledge everyone's efforts, and I

the Year for the key role she plays at Caerau Vale Trampolining Club, while Pete Haysham's outstanding success as Men's Gymnastics Coach of the Barry YMCA and Welsh national teams saw him take the Performance Coach title.

In the final award, the hundreds of medals picked up at events all over Europe by Vale Karate during 2009 earned them the 'Team of the Year' accolade.

Among those present to hand out awards was Coun Anthony Ernest, the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, who said: "I would like to thank the Vale District Sports Council as the awards evening was a great success and showcased the commitment of every award winner and runner-up to their chosen sport."

"It must have been extremely difficult for the judges to select the winners, all of whom have cemented their place in the Vale's sporting history alongside heroes such as Nicole Cooke and David Davies."

FULL RESULTS LIST:
Senior Male (Award sponsored by the Community Chest scheme) – Winner: Andrew Selby (boxing); runners-up: Nathan Mullett (gymnastics) and Clinton Purnell (gymnastics).

Senior Female (Award sponsored by the Community Chest scheme) – Winner: Hannah Fisher (lacrosse); runner-up: Alice Hales (skiing).

Junior Male (Award sponsored by the Vale Children and Young People's Partnership) – Winner: Ieuan Lloyd (swimming); runners-up: Samuel Stephens (skiing), Tom Harvey (karting) and Jamie Viscount (boxing).

Junior Female (Award sponsored by the Vale Children and Young

People's Partnership) – Winner: Katie Bradbury (squash and golf); runners-up: Ruby Ellis (cycling) and Bethan Moorcroft (cricket).
Disability Sport (Award sponsored by Gwyneth Lingard and Vale Allsports Club) – Winner: James Savory (talented multi-sportsman); runners-up: Shannon Rogers (swimming) and James Jones (swimming).

Volunteer (Award sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Training Association) – Winner: Ann Horgan (Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club); runners-up: Michael Mepham (Barry RFC Veterans) and Anne Thomas (gymnastics).
Community Coach (Award sponsored by Barry Town Council) – Winner: Suzanne

Portsmouth (Caerau Vale Trampolining Club); runners-up: Fay Benningwood (Barry YMCA Gymnastics), Mike Dixon (Llantwit Major Boxing Club) and Rob Copeland (Vale Karate).
Performance Coach (Award sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Council) – Winner: Pete Haysham (Coach to Barry MYCA and Wales Men's Gymnastics Teams); runners-up: Ron Gurd (Colcot Boxing Club), Chris Rees (badminton coach) and Gareth Reynolds (Vale Karate).
Team (Award sponsored by South Wales Police RFC) – Winner: Vale Karate; runners-up: Seaview RFC, Barry YMCA Men's Gymnastics Team and Barry RFC Veterans.



**Team of the year winners,
Vale Karate.**



ABOVE:
Award winners Ieuan Lloyd (Junior Male),
Katie Bradbury (Junior Female)
and James Savory (Disability Sport).

Portsmouth (Caerau Vale Trampolining Club); runners-up: Fay Benningwood (Barry YMCA Gymnastics), Mike Dixon (Llantwit Major Boxing Club) and Rob Copeland (Vale Karate).
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Team (Award sponsored by South Wales Police RFC) – Winner: Vale Karate; runners-up: Seaview RFC, Barry YMCA Men's Gymnastics Team and Barry RFC Veterans.



**Mr Hall from the Vale of Glamorgan training
Association presents Ann Horgan with
her Volunteer of the Year award.**



Performance coach of the year Pete Haysham with Leader of the Vale Council Coun Gordon Kemp (left) and Coun Anthony Ernest, Vale Council cabinet member for leisure and tourism (right).



Suzanne Portsmouth, Community Coach of the Year, with Barry Town Mayor Coun Karl Kuhnell, awards host Arfon Haines-Davies, and Gwyneth Lingard.

A pair of good results for Llantwit men's bowls team

LLANTWIT had an easy victory in the Munro Cup on Wednesday when they visited local rivals Rhosne, winning on all rinks 97-38 shots.

Graham Jones' rink had an early scare when they found themselves six shots to one down, before finding their length to coast to a comfortable win.

Mike Williams' rink had an unfamiliar look about it, comprising mainly of A team players, who all performed well to win by 12 clear shots.

Neville Young's rink were also loaded with A team players who again came up to the mark, with Arthur Harvey having an exceptional game.

Alan Gibbard's rink was full of first team players and they outclassed Rhoose to win by 20 shots.

Rink scores: GJ 22-11, MW 20-8, NY 22-12, AG 33-7.

On Saturday, Llantwit maintained their unbeaten record in the league

with their fourth win, at Murch BC (Dinas Powys) in a 106-77 shot win.

A Gibbard's rink kept up their unbeaten run in the league, demolishing the opposition and scoring six shots on two ends. In the process, they amassed a 24-shot margin.

Charles Hiscock's rink were down in the early stages, recovering to take the lead, only to lose it again before composing themselves to win by seven shots.

Graham Jones' rink had no problems taking an early lead, and kept up the momentum until the end to win by 12 shots.

Danny Ahearn's rink started well, taking the lead on the eighth end, only to lose it on the next end.

They then suffered a six-shot loss which they never recovered from, with the rink never coming to terms with the vagaries of the green.

Rink scores: AG 40-16, CH 22-15, GJ 27-15, DA 17-31.

Great victory for midweek Cavs

LLANTWIT can once again thank James Snelson, aided by some good fielding for this four-wicket win over the Wanderers at Windmill Lane last Wednesday.

The visitors won the toss and got off to a good start, with opener N Baker going on to hit 101 before being caught on the boundary by Jonathan Cheal.

Jake McNaughton had earlier caught opener Phillips (19) and James Snelson held a cracking one-handed catch to dismiss A.Baker (28) just as he was beginning to cut loose.

Mike Wood (2 for 3

off 4 overs) and Snelson (2 for 35 off 4) were the Cavaliers wicket takers, with Dave Cheal the pick of the other bowlers.

Llantwit looked in trouble at 5 for 2 in reply, before Snelson hit an amazing 93 including seven sixes and seven fours to once again claim man of the match – a good knock, seven short of a good score as one person put it, tongue in cheek!

Mike Wood (37) was the other star batsman as the Cavaliers strode home with five balls to spare.

Llantwit Major Cavaliers Midweek XI 176 for 6 Beat Barry Wanderers 175 for 4.

Mixed results for Llantwit ladies

LLANTWIT ladies bowls team travelled to Pengelli BC (Treorchy) last week to play in the Cowbridge Challenge Shield and won on two rinks, and lost on one, so gaining eight points from 10.

The rinks were: Kay Johnes, Margaret Morgan, Peggy Pike and Carol Willmot, 15-2. Barbara Lewis, Ann Mutlow, Etta Gray and Eryl Nicholls, 15-17. Edna Hardie, Marian

Lewis, May Davies and Jean Voss, 18-15.

It was a different story when they welcomed Barry Romilly BC for a league match losing on all rinks.

The visitors found the green a lot better than we did and deserved to win.

The rinks were: Edna Hardie, Margaret Morgan, Carol Willmot and Marian Lewis 6-18. Kay Johnes, Ann Mutlow, Peggy Pike and May Davies, 9-21. Liz Crouch, Barbara Lewis, Eryl Nicholls and Etta Gray, 8-24.

KJ



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Llantwit's Sunday XI just keep on winning!

LLANTWIT Major Cavaliers Sunday XI beat Barry West End by 28 runs.

Openers Harry Withers (12) and skipper Jonathan Cheal (12) got Llantwit off to a solid start with a 35-run partnership, and Mike Wood hit a lively 38, but it was Tim Bunce who held Llantwit's innings together with an excellent 42 not out.

A costly 37 extras from the visitors allowed Llantwit to reach 165 for 7 in their 40 overs.

In reply, several Barry

batsmen got into their 20s, but were unable to kick on against some excellent Cavaliers bowling and fielding, and slumped from 114 for 5 to 139 for 9.

Dave Cheal applied tremendous pressure to concede just two runs off his four overs, with Andrew Williams taking 3 for 23 off 8 overs, Andrew Ashton 2 for 26 off 8 overs and Jonathan Cheal 2 for 14 off 5 overs.

Sam Pickford and Mike Wood also picked up a wicket each at a very economical rate.

Bridge results

THE latest Cowbridge Bridge results are as follows:

VALE OF GLAMORGAN BRIDGE CLUB – JUNE 21.

First: Terry Evans and Alan Lewis with 69.05 per cent. Second: Ray Smith and Gwynne Maddox (64.68). Third: Mary Moore and Irene Thomas (61.90). Fourth: John Moore and Mildred Trigg-Knight (56.35). Fifth: Teri Pollard and David Wright (49.00); Chris and Vince Bennett; Ann Miller and Judy Springett.

BS

Maslin (55.16). COWBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB – JUNE 22.

First: Margaret and Ian Fernyhough (66.00). Second: Amy Owen and Glenda Roberts (62.50). Third: Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey (54.00). Fourth: Barbara and Colin Easterbrook (51.00). Fifth: Fran and Chris Morgan (50.00). Joint sixth: Teri Pollard and David Wright (49.00); Chris and Vince Bennett; Ann Miller and Judy Springett.

BS

LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUB MEMBERS WORK UP A THIRST ON GOLF DAY

THE day dawned early on the greens of Cottrell Park Golf Club for the Llantwit Major AFC Golf Day.

A cloudless sky and a warm gentle breeze greeted the 42 competitors for this event.

All 18 holes had been sponsored by local businesses. There were some notable performances in this year's individual and team Stableford competition. Dave Jones, who failed to register a score at any of the 18 holes in last year's event, completed the day with a creditable 28 points.

The team of Cope, Davies, Urquart and Davidson started well but found the heat too oppressive and floundered like a pod of beached whales!



Dai Price found the opportunities after a long and hot four-and-a-half hours.

Rugby training starts in Llantwit Major LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC is starting pre season training on Tuesday, July 6, at 7pm.

A spokesman said: "If you are interested in playing rugby, then come and play for Llantwit Major, one of the oldest clubs in the WRU."

"We are looking for players for all positions old and new to add to our current squads and all military personnel are welcome."

The club will be looking at going on tour overseas next season."

LEFT:
The treasurer in trouble!

succinct speech before the presentations. A heartfelt thanks went to all the sponsors and, in particular, The Gateway of India restaurant, Therapy Works and Euregent Express.

The overall winner was Elliot Stokes with an impressive 42 points, playing off an eight handicap.

Steve Scott picked up the prize for the nearest the pin competition on the par 3 eighth hole and the team prize went to Team Stokes.

The day ended with a slightly controversial decision by the organisers, who awarded the longest drive to Jack Lansdown. Tim Watts, the old Llantwit Major AFC war horse and first team coach, mistakenly felt that he had been in contention for the coveted prize, when his frustration got the better of him and he hitched a ride in a buggy from the 14th green back to the clubhouse!

If the Ryder Cup is half as entertaining as the Llantwit Major AFC golf day, Wales is in for a treat!

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175/70R14 Bridgestone R300	£69.25	£112	£210	175/70R14 Avon ZV3	£32.95	£92	£175
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Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	
165/70R13 Tyrell	£28.95	£50	£195
165/70R13 Tyrell	£29.95	£55	£105
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Dimension	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Dimension	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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195/60R15 Bridgestone R300	£73.25	£132	£255	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£62.25	£195	£260
195/60R15 Bridgestone R300	£62.25	£188	£305	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£52.25	£100	£190

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HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

Dimension	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Dimension	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
205/55R15 Bridgestone R300	£52.25	£98	£189	205/55R15 Avon ZV3	£48.25	£90	£170
205/55R15 Bridgestone R300	£75.25	£135	£260	205/55R15 Avon ZV3	£52.25	£118	£230
215/55R15 Bridgestone R300	£63.25	£110	£210	215/55R15 Avon ZV3	£54.25	£101	£195
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04 04 AUDI TT Roadster, 1.8T Quattro (180bhp) 2-dr Convertible. In cherry black with black alcantara leather interior, 18" alloy wheels, BOSE sound system, traction control system, front fogs, only 34,000 miles. £11,995



03 03 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318Ci SE Convertible. In light yellow metallic, with full black leather interior, electric heated seats with memory, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, 18" Msport alloy wheels, only 55,615 miles. £11,995



03 03 BMW 330 Ci 2-Door Convertible. In Topaz blue with grey Montana interior, 6-CD multi-changer, heated seats, automatic air con, cruise control, rear parking sensors, only 55,130 miles. £11,995

PRESTIGE

- 07 57 MERCEDES BENZ 3.5 SL350 Convertible 7G-Tronic. In jasper blue with alpaca grey leather interior, Bose sound system, sat nav, 19" AMG alloy wheels, phone prep, heated seats, only 19,175 miles. £35,995
- 07 57 LAND ROVER Range Rover Sport 2.7 TD V6 Automatic 5-Dr Station Wagon. In Java black with ebony leather interior, rear entertainment package, 20" alloy wheels, cruise control, phone prep, heated seats, only sat nav, 34,640 miles. £27,995
- 07 07 JAGUAR X K convertible. Zircon blue met with ivory sports leather interior, upgraded 20 inch sentanta wheels, full colour satellite navigation, electric heated memory seats, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, bluetooth phone prep, only 12,621 miles, fsh. 1 owner. £35,995
- 07 07 BMW X3 2.5si SE Automatic in platinum bronze metallic with sand beige leather interior, aluminium running boards, cd, front and rear parking sensors, heated seats, only 33,160 miles. £18,995
- 06 56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary i-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers. £11,995
- 05 05 MERCEDES BENZ M Class ML270 CDI Special Edition Automatic 5-Dr Station Wagon. In black with grey suede interior, climate control, memory heated electric seat, roof rails, only 41,750 miles. £16,495
- 05 05 JAGUAR X-Type 6 Auto SE in Jaguar British Racing Green met with oatmeal leather, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, alloy wheels, climate control, only 41,780 miles. £8,495
- 04 54 MERCEDES Benz CL500 5 litre 2-Dr Auto coupe. In tanztanze blue with java leather interior with BOSE sound system, AMG body styling, electric sunroof, only 48,245 miles. £17,500
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- 03 03 BMW 330 Ci 2-Door Convertible. In Topaz blue with grey Montana interior, 6-CD multi-changer, heated seats, automatic air con, cruise control, rear parking sensors, only 55,130 miles. £11,995
- 02 51 MERCEDES BENZ C-Class 2.0 C180 Sport Coupe in brilliant silver met with Ascot interior, dual zone climate control, cruise control, auto lights, cd, alloy wheels, only 70,647 miles. £6,995
- 02 52 LEXUS RX300 3.0 SE (Lexus Nav) 5-dr Auto station wagon in platinum ice silver with beige oak interior, climate control, sat nav, multi cd, sunroof, electric seats, only 86,200 miles. £7,495

SPORTS

- 09 09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite In graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles. £14,495
- 09 58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SRI Sporthatch. In technical grey met with silver alpha interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, rear spoiler, trip computer, only 26,770 miles. £10,995
- 07 57 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SIII in steel grey with full red leather interior, climate control, sunroof, cruise control, alloy wheels, only 23,600 miles. £10,495
- 07 07 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 TDI DPF (170ps) GT Sport 5-dr in met shadow blue with full Vienna leather heated seats, sunroof, climate, 1-pod dock, 18 inch Charlston alloy wheels, only 37,111 miles. £13,995
- 07 07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDI DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback. In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 36,598 miles. £13,495
- 06 56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSI (170ps) FT 5-dr in reflex silver metallic with siemreene anthracite interior, climate control, air con, front fog, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles. £10,995
- 06 56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback. In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles. £10,495
- 04 04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spdr in slate grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles. £7,995
- 04 54 AUDI A3 2.0TDI Sport 3-dr Hatchback. In crystal blue with matrix black cloth/leather, cd, alloy wheels, climate control, electronic stability programme, only 64,000 miles. £9,995
- 04 54 MITSUBISHI Shogun Sport 2.0 TDI 5-Dr Station Wagon. In black Mica with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, immobiliser, only 54,530 miles. £8,995
- 04 54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 1DI (100ps) Sport 5-dr in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles. £6,495
- 04 04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 GTi 3-dr Hatchback in pearlescent Aegean blue with apicula suede interior, cd, alloy wheels, cd autochanger, fog lights, only 47,370 miles. £5,495
- 04 54 HYUNDAI TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible. In ignition blue with anthracite Sebring interior, alloy wheels, cd player, alarm and immobiliser, only 27,000 miles. £4,995
- 04 54 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SE 3-dr Coupe. In smart silver with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, climate control, front fog lights, only 71,900 miles. £4,995
- 04 04 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro 2-dr Convertible. In cherry black with black alcantara leather interior, 18" alloy wheels, BOSE sound system, traction control system, front fogs, only 34,000 miles. £11,995
- 04 04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddish shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles. £4,295
- 03 53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible. In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles. £4,495
- 02 02 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro 2-dr Convertible. In silver with special edition, grey leather interior, Bose sound system, heated seats, alloy wheels, climate control, only 70,620 miles. £9,995
- 02 02 MG ZS 2.5 180. In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior, with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fog, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles. £2,995
- 01 01 Y Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2 Di-D GLX LE LWB. In metallic silver with blue velour interior, cd, alloys, air con, electric windows/mirrors, alarm and immobiliser, only 88,471 miles. £6,495

FAMILY

- 00 W LANDROVER Discovery 2.5 TD. In navy blue with half leather Landrover interior, CD, climate control, smart nav, alloy wheels, only 84,100 miles. £5,495
- 00 W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-Door Saloon. In Strathcarron blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric sunroof, air con, only 57,280 miles. £4,495
- 08 08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles. £9,495
- 07 07 NISSAN Qashqai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr 4WD. In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles. £15,995
- 07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDI Cool 5-dr hatchback in Arctic silver with Galant black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, g35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles. £6,995
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback. In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fog, alarm, only 15,060 miles. £7,295
- 06 06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi Diesel 5-Dr Hatchback. In black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 61,199 miles, quick clean screen. £6,995
- 05 05 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique in met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles. £5,795
- 05 05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles. £6,495
- 05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (130bhp) LX 6-speed in stardust silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles. £5,995
- 05 05 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr hatchback, oriental blue with blue/black Tony interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, only 39,840 miles. £4,295
- 04 04 BMW 3 Series 2.2 320i Sport Touring 5-Dr Estate. In silver grey with black suede interior, automatic air con, sat nav, rear parking sensors, CD, only 33,170 miles. £9,995
- 04 04 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with aras ebony interior, front and rear fog, cruise control, multi cd, quick clear windscreen, only 51,140 miles. £4,995
- 04 04 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles. £4,495
- 04 04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon. Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles. £6,495
- 04 04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback. In panther black with Salomon black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloys, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles. £4,395
- 03 03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles. £5,695
- 02 02 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr in Atlantic blue metallic with hooney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles. £3,495

SMALL

- 09 09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles. £10,995
- 09 09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr. In black sapphire, with cable charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles. £8,495
- 09 09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4 in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles. £6,995
- 08 08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C) 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles. £8,495
- 08 08 FORD KA Studio. In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles. £4,995
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback. In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles. £6,995
- 07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic. In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles. £6,495
- 06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-Dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles. £5,995
- 06 06 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-dr. In tonic blue with Kyboto ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, trip computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,820 miles. £5,295
- 06 06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection. In panther black with Tic-Toc interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 30,866 miles. £4,195
- 05 05 MINI Cooper 1.6 Pepper. In pure silver met with Kaleido half leather interior, panormaic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, only 49,540 miles. £6,995
- 03 03 MINI Cooper Chili 1.6 3-dr Hatchback. In pure silver with anthracite/black panther cloth/leather interior, interior light package, chrome line exterior, air con, CD, only 36,975 miles. £6,995
- 03 03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-Dr Hatchback. In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 58,105 miles. £3,295
- 01 01 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr. In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46,010 miles. £3,995
- 01 01 Y VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr. In reflex silver met with Pepe interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles. £3,495

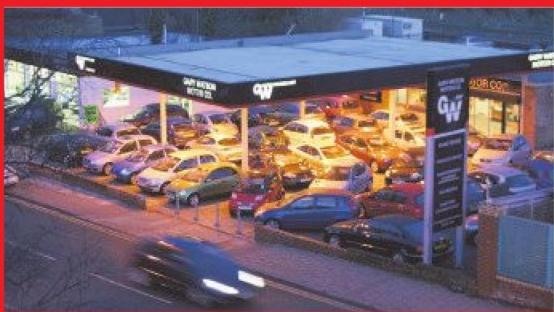
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X PEUGEOT 206 Roland Garros 5-dr. Green, suede leather seats, a/con, panoramic roof, 1 lady owner, 47,826 miles. £2,995



03 MAZDA MX5 1.8. In met-blue, great looking car with alloys, cd etc. £5,995



05 FORD Street Ka. Silver, 1 owner, low mileage, very attractive convertible. Reduced by £300 to. £4,995



51 MERCEDES ML270CDi Auto 7-seater. Met burgundy, heated leather seats, fantastic value. £7,995

SPORT, PRESTIGE & 4X4

07	MERCEDES CL500 Auto. In silver with full black leather trim, 25,000 miles, host of extras on this luxury coupe.....	REDUCED TO £42,995
06	BMW 525 Diesel SE Auto. In silver with full leather trim, 30,000 miles	£15,995
04	CHRYSLER Crossfire 3.2 Coupe. In ice blue metallic with charcoal leather trim, 44,000 miles.....	£8,495
05	MINI COOPER In chilli red with chequered flag details, 48,000 miles with Cooper alloys etc.	£7,995
54	TOYOTA RAV4 XT2 VVTi 3-dr. In silver, 32,000 miles, great value 4x4 at	£7,995
54	ROVER 75 Contemporary SE CDTi Silver, 46,000 miles, heated leather seats, air con, CD, comfort with diesel economy	£6,996
05	SUZUKI Grand Vitara 2.0 5-dr. In met-gold, 55,000 miles with a/c, cd, side steps, etc	£5,995
02	LEXUS GS300 SE Navigator. In claret metallic with light grey leather trim, 75,000 miles, looks and drives superb....	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995
53	VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Convertible. In electric blue with black hood, 48,000 miles, full electric hood, a/c, CD	£4,995
02	BMW 316 SE. In silver, 78,000 miles with a/c, alloys etc.....	£4,695
03	MG TF 160. In silver, 35,000 miles, 2 owners from new, with hard top at	£4,495
51	TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi. In blue, 75,000 miles with glass roof, rear spoiler etc.	REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495
53	ROVER 75 1.8 Turbo Club SE Automatic. In met. gold, 56,000 miles, quality car at	£3,995
04	ALFA ROMEO 156 1.8 Twin Spark Lusso. In Monza green metallic, 86,000 miles, on offer at	£2,995

SMALL, ECONOMICAL AND FAMILY CARS

09	SKODA Fabia TDi2 1.4 5-dr. 64,000 miles, alloys, air con, makers warranty, £30 road tax, silver	£8,995
07	SKODA Octavia 1.9 TDi 5-dr. In silver, 37,000 miles, ideis diesel hatch at	£7,995
06	RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. In silver, 46,000 miles, 2 owners, 7 seater	£6,995
04	VW Golf 1.6 FSi SE 5-dr. In met-blue, 41,000 miles, 1 owner, 6-speed, alloys etc	£6,995
56	TOYOTA Yaris 1.3T3 3-dr. In silver, 21,000 miles, very sought-after model at	£6,295
56	FORD Focus 1.6L Estate. Black, 20,146 miles, 1 owner, outstanding value	£5,995
05	RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.9 DCi Dynamique. In met grey, 55,000 miles, diesel, 7 seater	£5,995
05	FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr. In silver, 37,000 miles, usual Ghia refinement	£5,995
54	FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDi. Magnum grey, 36,000 miles, outstanding value & economy	£5,995
04	TOYOTA Corolla 2.0 D4D T3 5-dr. In silver, 54,000 mile diesel with sat-nav	£5,995
07	RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr. In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc	REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £5,495
55	NISSAN Primara 2.0 SX 5-dr. In silver, 35,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys, reversing camera	£5,495
06	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 5-dr in electric blue, great looking car at	£4,995
56	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+ 5-dr. Blue, low mileage, with half-leather trim, etc.	£4,995
55	FORD Focus 1.5 Diesel LX Estate. In silver, 77,000 miles with CD, air con etc.	£4,995
05	SMART Forfour 1.5 Pulse in black, 38,000 miles, large glass sunroof, c/d, etc	£4,995
04	FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Ghia '130bhp' in black, 62,000 miles. Top of the range diesel at	£4,995
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52	AUDI A2 1.4 SE. In met-blue, 59,000 miles with usual Audi refinements, on offer at	£4,695
55	FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-dr. Silver, 47,000 miles with alloys, CD etc.	£4,695
05	FORD Mondeo Zetec TDCi. Tonic blue, 2 owners, very economical family car	£4,495
55	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr. In silver, 41,000 miles, air con, alloys etc	£4,495
04	FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec Estate. In silver, 61,000 miles, fantastic value practical family estate at.....	£4,295
55	VAUXHALL Aquila 1.2 Twinport Envoy. 37,000 miles, much sought after model	£3,995
06	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.2 C2i 3-dr. In light met-blue, 1 owner, CD, e/w, c/l etc.	£3,995
06	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr. In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
54	RENAULT Clio 1.6 Dynamique 3-dr in black, 31,000 miles, sunroof and air con	£3,995
04	PEUGEOT 206 1.1S 3-dr. In silver, 32,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c	£3,995
03	SAAB 95 2.2TDi. In silver with black leather, 93,000 miles, solid diesel saloon at only	£3,995
04	FIESTA 1.2 LX 3-dr. In silver, 56,000 miles, alloys, CD etc.	£3,995
55	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXi 3-dr. In black, 39,000 miles, fantastic value at	£3,695
05	CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX. Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car	£3,695
04	RENAULT Laguna Dynamique 1.8 Estate. Full panoramic roof, silver, tremendous value	£3,495
04	FIESTA 1.2 Finesse 3-dr. In black, 65,000 miles, one lady owner	£3,495
53	FORD Ka Collection. In sea - frost silver, 47,000 miles, very attractive low mileage car	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995
53	FORD Ka 1.3i In blue, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495
53	DAEWOO Matiz SE. Silver, 25,000 miles, outstanding value	REDUCED BY £200 TO £2,495
53	DAEWOO Matiz 796cc Extra. In met bronze, 42,000 miles with CD	£2,495
52	DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6SX. In met-red with cd, a/c, alloys	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,195

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GEM sport

After the tour... MUCH TO PONDER, AS WELSH RUGBY TAKES A BREATHER

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

'Once again, this frustrating young Welsh team were partly the architects of their own downfall, faulty execution proving costly at critical junctures and the lack of a totally ruthless edge was in stark contrast to far more streetwise opponents who typically grabbed every scoring opportunity that came their way...'

THAT is what I wrote in my summing up of the 42-9 defeat to New Zealand in the first Test at Carisbrook – and in essence, it was much the same story in the 29-9 second Test defeat at Hamilton on Saturday, with Welsh indiscipline the added contributing factor.

It was bad enough seeing their influential captain Ryan Jones leave the field injured at Waikato, but to be reduced to 14 men for a quarter of the match through two yellow cards gave the Welsh underdogs a well nigh impossible task – even against Graham Henry's reshuffled All Blacks, who showed seven changes from the one-sided first Test.

In fairness, an eager Wales side showing two changes of their own – 20-year-old Osprey Dan Biggar in for Stephen Jones at outside half and Scarlets' Jonathan Davies at centre – again got off to a very promising start, Leigh Halfpenny sending over a howitzer of a penalty to grab the lead inside two minutes.

This was promptly negated by that all too familiar thorn in the Welsh side, outside half Dan Carter, who landed the first of five penalties, which with a conversion, would take his match tally to 17 points (to add to the 25 he amassed in the first Test!).

At Dunedin, Wales had

appeared to run out of steam after the interval, despite achieving parity for much of the first half (to head coach Warren Gatland's undisguised chagrin) and as a result, New Zealand had run amok, racking up 27 unanswered points.

This time, though, a redoubled Welsh effort held firm for the whole duration, most notably in the scrum led by the indomitable Adam Jones, who had a point to make to former Wales coach Steve Hansen (now Henry's No 2).

For once the men in black appeared discomfited – until the usual Welsh propensity for ill-timed errors began to surface, resulting in missed opportunities and lost possession at the contact and breakdown areas, where wily Richie McCaw was again the wrecker-supreme, blissfully immune to official sanction!

Mind you, he was not alone in that: While in no sense belittling New Zealand's deserved exalted status at the top of the world rugby tree, there are times when it seems that referees have collective blurred vision where silver fern transgressions are concerned that do not always apply to the rest.

Even so, it had no real bearing on the outcome of the two-Test series Down Under, which underlined just how much further Gatland's men have yet to travel before they seriously threaten a Kiwi supremacy stretching back to 1953 – the Queen's coronation year – the third (and last) time Wales have triumphed in 27 clashes between the two nations.

The pragmatic former All Black implicitly acknowledged this by setting his team the minimal goal of a passionately-committed performance for the whole 80 minutes, to at least win the "respect" of

his homeland.

In this at least, the pre-tour target was surely achieved, for in terms of unflinching, all-out effort the entire Welsh squad could not be faulted, showing a never-say-die spirit and pride in the red shirt, that (unlike the hapless England football team) enabled them to return home with their heads held high.

While the Welsh camp can point to this and other plus factors that will stand young players in good stead for the future, the reality is that the records will merely show that they were well beaten – by opponents who never really needed to hit top gear.

To put it in sober context, Hansen was afterwards quoted as saying that the All Blacks would now turn their attention to the "big boys" (in the Tri-Nations).

With Gatland's focus, as always, firmly on next year's looming Rugby World Cup in New Zealand, the Six Nations will be crucial in honing his squad to a strategy that will give Wales the best chance of success in the competition.

The signs are there that Wales are slowly assembling a pack more than able to hold their own up front and supply the quick ball to talented backs on which Welsh play traditionally depends.

Who knows, there could yet be a role for sadly-neglected scrum half Dwayne Peel to provide those extra vital seconds needed to inject pace into the attack from the base of the scrum – and then, of course, there is also the No 10 conundrum!

So, plenty for Gatland & Co to ponder on, as everyone now takes a short breather before the whistle sounds for the start of a long, hard season in which World Cup glory is the glittering distant prize.

CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM welcomes your reports and other club items of interest. Email them to: ggem@internet-today.co.uk or post to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL

Training to begin at Porthcawl RFC

PORTHCAWL RFC Youth team begin summer training on Thursday, July 8.

New coaches Phil Wintle and Dafydd Keyse are keen to meet the boys to prepare for a pre-season warm up game against a touring representative side from Chicago on July 31.

It is hoped that this will be a start of preparations for a tour to America next season. Also, the youth team will be in action on August 14 when Porthcawl RFC

host the annual Idwal Mort Sevens.

So, Porthcawl would like to invite any old or new players to come along on July 8 and be a part of this ambitious team.

Porthcawl RFC would also like to thank Andrew Graham, Shane Wootten and John Aitken for their work with the youth side over the past few seasons. (Although Andrew Graham has indicated that he will help out if needed).

Welsh caps for Kenfig Hill boys



Boys Clubs of Wales caps were awarded to Kenfig Hill RFC players. Pictured from left to right are under-16s Lee Arrowsmith, Ross Cooper, Curtis Kerton and Adam Lloyd and under 18s Chris Leyshon and Shaun Burnell.

Kids can Tri too!

A TOTAL OF 85 children took part in the recent Pencoed Junior Triathlon and Fun2Tri event, and swam, biked and ran their way to the finish line for a well deserved medal and banana.

Event organiser Debbie Cooke said: "To give all children, regardless of experience and fitness levels, the opportunity to have a go our Fun2Tri novice wave for eight-14yr olds wasn't timed and had an emphasis on having a go and having lots of fun. It was great to see so many kids take on the challenge and finish with a big smile!"

The Pencoed Tri club juniors did themselves proud and scooped a number of winning places. The club thanks Bridgend council's Active Young Persons Department for helping promote the event to local school children, MOTI sports store for supplying goody bags, and Co-op Pencoed for providing bananas. The event was funded by a Community Chest grant.

Tristar female, 1st Ocean Poultney-Maddy, 2nd Jasmine Silk, 3rd Eve Gambling; Tristar male, 1st Iestyn Knapp, 2nd Kyle Cook, 3rd Joshua Richards; Tristar 1 female, 1st Lucy Dennis, 2nd Mali Jones, 3rd Annaliese Beyon; Tristar 1 male, 1st Huw Cooke, 2nd Alaric Jones, 3rd Ieuan Walmsley-Williams; Tristar 2 female, 1st Emily Atfield, 2nd Rhoslyn Bryn 3rd Anness Phillips; Tristar 2 male, 1st Finnlay Thompson, 2nd Ben Dickinson, 3rd Teifion Best; Tristar 3 female, 1st Ffion-Haf Harrett, 2nd Caitlyn Thompson, 3rd Rachel Selleck; Tristar 3 male, 1st Liam Bradley, 2nd Ieuan Cooke, 3rd Joel Poultney-Maddy.

Pencoed Phoenix get to 'bond on the beach'

PENCOED PHOENIX entered the first ever Beach Touch Rugby tournament for women held at Swansea Bay, in conjunction with the Ospreys, and Shane Williams promotions.com.

RESULTS:

The competition attracted a large crowd of more than 1,000 spectators, who enjoyed the rugby in glorious sun-shine.

Phoenix opened the round robin tournament against eventual winners Seven Sisters, going down to a solitary try.

Next up were good friends Treorchy Zebras, with Jodie Parsons diving over beneath the cones for a two-point try, in a 2-2 draw.

Phoenix then accounted for Gorseinon with tries from Robyn Wilkins, following a smart interception, and Johanna Poupon.

Poupon's pace in attack and sound defensive work made her the Pencoed Phoenix player of the tournament.

At this juncture,

Phoenix were in second place and met Waunarlwydd who were leading. Unfortunately Phoenix, who led throughout, went down to an agonising last-second defeat, conceding an interception try.

This cost Phoenix dear, missing out on four match points. They finished the competition in fourth place out of the six. With a little more luck, they might have been second.

The pluses on the day were that all 20 players were used, and the relatively inexperienced Phoenix squad did not look out of place against far more experienced opposition.

Also the day proved to be an invaluable bonding exercise.

Pencoed RFC, however, did have a winner on the day, with young Rhys Butler of the Pencoed under-12s winning the Shane Williams Challenge Trophy, an electronically timed sprint for all comers.

TR

WICK PREPARES FOR NEW SEASON

WICK RFC gained promotion to Division One of the Bridgend and District League after lifting the Division Two title in April, but next season will see a serious step up in level. The club will play

With this in mind, the successful new coaching partnership of John Birkett and Paul Creed, have called an early start to summer training, and are inviting any new players wishing to join the squad to attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6.30pm.

This season's black tie presentation evening is to be held at Corntown Cricket Club on Friday, July 9.

The club is producing a commemorative photo in front of the portcullis

at St Donats Castle, to record the people involved in the first 39 seasons and the club is calling for all past and present players and officials to attend the event on Sunday, July 11 at 11am.

Afterwards, everyone is welcome to The Lamb and Flag for buffet and refreshments. For more information call 07788864079.

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